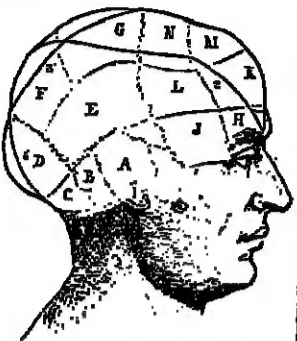


THE TIMES Tomorrow

Budget in detail
Verdict on the Budget. Seven pages of details; comprehensive analysis by a specialist team led by Kenneth Fleet and Sarah Hogg; the Chancellor's speech in full. All you need to know to calculate what the Budget means to you.



Mind over matter
Spectrum thinks about ESP

Crash course
Jock Bruce-Gardyne explains why Mrs Thatcher is on a collision course in Brussels

Queen Billie
Wednesday Page goes backstage with Billie Whitelaw who is taking New York by storm

Heseltine plans MoD shake-up

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, announced plans to reorganize the Ministry of Defence and greatly strengthen the role of the Chief of the Defence Staff at the expense of individual Service chiefs. **Page 2**

Dad's Army actor dies

Arnold Ridley, the actor who played Private Godfrey in the television series *Dad's Army*, has died in Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, west London. He was 88. Mr Ridley, author of *The Ghost Train* and who also played Doughty Hood in radio's *The Archers*, was created an OBE in the 1982 New Year's Honours List.

Gun charge

A man will appear in court in Arundel, West Sussex, today accused of possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life, after a car chase in which shots were fired in Sunday.



Bomb planted

A bomb was planted at the Omar Khayyam nightclub and restaurant, in Regent Street, central London, last night.

Inquiry delay

The Test and County Cricket Board will not carry out an investigation into alleged drug taking by England players until they return from Pakistan at the end of the month. **Page 27**

Leader page, 15
Letters: On NEDC, from Sir Geoffrey Chandler; Police Bill, from Professor L. Leigh and others.
Leading articles: Aid for Afghanistan: miners' strike. **Features, pages 10, 12, 14**
Roy Jenkins continues *The Times* series on 35 years of Nato: Privatize the Bank of England, says Roger Scruton; the Pope and the Bulgarian question; Spectrum: Sarah Hogg's Budget guide: Fashion looks at colour.
Obituary, page 16
Sir Alfred Nicholas, Professor B. W. Downs.
Computer Horizons, pages 22-25
Technology and the Third World: spotlight on Hemel Hempstead: exploring office systems and a revolution in correspondence.

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Militant picketing spreads coal strike to 99 pits

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Militant picketing at pitheads in South Wales and Scotland yesterday brought out on strike more than half of the coal industry's labour force, as Yorkshire miners began an indefinite stoppage.

National Coal Board officials calculated last night that 99 pits employing more than 96,000 men were at a standstill as left-wing union leaders urged sympathetic industrial action, despite reservations among the men.

As the strike in Yorkshire over the proposed closure of Cortonwood and Bulcliffe Wood collieries started, the NCB said that South Wales pitmen had been "picketed out" by militant miners defying a rank and file vote to continue working.

Only three of the 28 Welsh pits were working.

Swift support came from the Transport and General Workers' Union executive council which called on members not to move coal to power stations and other stockpiling establishments which could weaken the National Union of Mineworkers' position.

Mr Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman, will not visit pits during the strike for fear of exacerbating the situation. But on a visit to management in the North-east, he gave a warning that a prolonged stoppage would probably accelerate pit closures.

"The strike impact has been much less than forecast. I'm gratified that so many employees understand the situation, and I am impressed that despite the rhetoric of the last few days, and the attempt to whip up excitement, we see very minimal support in some areas."

The stoppage has spread most rapidly to Scotland, South Wales, Kent and Durham from Yorkshire, the biggest coalfield, where all 53 pits were idle yesterday and 56,000 men on strike. Some Yorkshire miners disobeyed area leaders' appeals to stay in their own area and tried to picket in North Nottinghamshire, though with little effect.

The board and NUM leaders are looking anxiously at the coalfields that are holding area ballots on the strike recommendation.

The Midlands men vote tomorrow and in Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire over the following two days. Their outcome will be critical.

If the vote is "no", there will be pressure on left-wing NUM leaders to call a special executive committee meeting at which a national pithead ballot can be ordered.

While the strike intensifies, Mr MacGregor said that if pickets threatened or intimidated staff engaged in vital safety work, further closures could follow. "I think the NUM are not interested in saving their

pits from flooding or gas problems and they should not look to the management to solve these things."

"I have told my colleagues in management that while we appreciate the enormous efforts they have put in recently, under no circumstances should their safety be put at risk. If indeed these people are threatened, and the pit is sacrificed in the process, then that is what will happen."

The coal board plans to close four million tonnes of capacity in the next financial year, involving the closure of up to 20 pits employing 20,000 men. The cutbacks in Yorkshire represent the first stage in this plan to bring mining capacity into line with reduced demand.

Mr Jack Taylor, president of the Yorkshire NUM, appealed to his members to continue the "responsible and disciplined approach" of restricting picketing to their own coalfield, while asking miners in other areas to follow their "magnificent lead".

Over the border in Derbyshire, the acting area secretary, Mr Gordon Butler, disclosed that 11,500 men would be recommended to strike in a ballot on Friday and asked the Yorkshire "flying pickets" to stay away in the meantime.

Determined picketing was blamed by the Coal Board last night for rapid escalation of the stoppage in South Wales and Scotland, where men who turned up for work decided not to cross picket lines.

Scottish field at a standstill as tempers flare at rebels

By Staff Reporters

Work in the Scottish coalfield came to a standstill yesterday after pickets closed the last three pits where miners had defied their union's strike call and had turned up to work.

At Bilston Glen colliery near Edinburgh, the largest pit in Scotland, tempers flared as miners left after working the early shift and others arrived prepared to work.

Many changed their minds at the prospect of running a gauntlet of about 300 strikers, many from other pits in the Scottish area, who bellowed abuse and obscenities at them from behind lines of police who stood, arms linked, on either side of the colliery gates.

The National Coal Board in Scotland said that 70 men had gone through into Bilston Glen of the 400 who would normally have been working on the back shift. But there would be no production from the pit and news that Barony and Tilloch collieries had stopped production, it was clear that all

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, rejected calls yesterday to intervene in the dispute over pit closures and said that the response to the strike had shown that miners wanted a secret ballot to express their views.

During clashes in the Commons he said that he would not interfere in a management decision to invest more in economic mines and to cut the burden of uneconomic pits in a "civilized and generous way". **Parliament, page 4**

10 pits in Scotland had ceased work.

In South Wales, coal board officials and union leaders were locked in a battle for the loyalty of the dispute. There were bitter exchanges at the St John's Colliery, Maesteg, as 12 pickets from the Tower Pit, described officially as lobbyist, persuaded men on the morning shift buses to turn back.

Although men at 18 of the 28 pits had decided to ignore the strike call, the pickets persuaded half of them to join in the action. Work at the nine other pits proceeded, normally within the constraints of the overtime ban.

Mr Philip Weedes, the coal board area director said: "It is a very sad day for democracy when the will of the minority is being imposed on the majority." The union, claimed that by the afternoon fewer than 300 men were working at seven pits. Renewing the call yesterday Mr Emylyn Williams president said he expected the coalfield to be at a complete standstill today.

At Harworth Colliery, Nottinghamshire, some of the 11 illegal "flying pickets" in the pit strike assembled yesterday but were urged to go home by their leaders in Yorkshire.

The Yorkshiremen, whose 53 mines were at a standstill, were trying to persuade their colleagues in the Nottinghamshire area to come out as well.

Government property chief to go

By David Nicholson-Lord

Mr Montague Alfred, £50,000-a-year chief executive of the Government's Crown Suppliers - formerly the Property Services Agency - has left his job with nine months of a three-year contract to run.

His departure was announced last night by the Department of the Environment which said only that Mr Alfred's contract had been terminated "by mutual agreement". Officials refused to elaborate.

Mr Alfred, who will be 59 next week, took over the top job at the agency, which is responsible for Crown properties, in January 1982 after a distinguished business career.

But he was frequently at odds with the Whitehall machine and at a Commons public accounts committee hearing last month, he responded angrily to charges that the agency still suffered from fraud and management complacency.

TUC begins retreat from boycott

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

TUC leaders yesterday began a retreat from their boycott of relationships with the Government called two weeks ago over the Foreign Secretary's ban on union membership at GCHQ, Cheltenham.

Members of the TUC's influential employment policy and organization committee voted without dissent not to withdraw from public bodies on which the unions sit with Government representatives.

The chief body involved is the Manpower Services Commission, which oversees ministerial job creation schemes. The unions also decided to continue participation in such diverse bodies as the Territorial Army Advisory Committee and the Home Office Standing Committee on Crime Prevention.

The TUC economic committee can now drop its temporary boycott of the National Economic Development Council, and a policy

paper being debated tomorrow proposes this course of action.

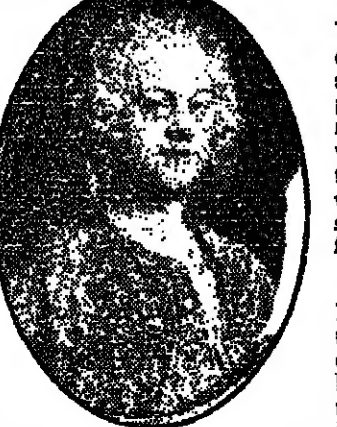
A close vote is predicted for tomorrow after defections among previously reliable moderate supporters of Neddy, particularly Mr David Basnett's General and Municipal Boilermakers' Union.

But even if the committee recommends permanent withdrawal and its structure of industry-government-union bodies, that decision would almost certainly be reversed by the TUC general council next Monday.

The employment and international committees decided against a boycott on the grounds that it would be "not advantageous" to union members, and similar decisions are expected from committees covering education, social insurance and economic issues in the run-up to the March 19 general council meeting.

Bargain portrait of the artist as a gentleman

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent



Miniature bargain: the Hogarth portrait.

The National Portrait Gallery carried off the snip of the day at Sotheby's yesterday, when it paid £1,705 for a portrait miniature of William Hogarth, which was not recognized by the auctioneers. It is probably worth more than ten times that sum, but was expected to sell for only £400.

Very few portraits of Hogarth exist and most of those are self-portraits. This oval - described in the catalogue as the image of an unnamed nobleman - is painted in enamel and Sotheby's attributed it to Rupert Barber, suggesting a date around 1740.

Judging by the wig and clothes Hogarth is wearing.

"I may not know my 'Hogarth', an unhappy Richard Allen, Sotheby's portrait miniature expert, said yesterday, 'but I am sure I know my Barber. It is a very good enamel, done by a professional.'"

The gallery secured the miniature through Laggatt's of Duke Street after receiving a tip from the Tate.

Miss Elizabeth Einberg, assistant keeper of the British historic collection there, had spotted it when she went to Sotheby's to look at the British pictures being sold tomorrow.



The Queen leaving Westminster Abbey yesterday after the Commonwealth Day Observance Service.

Britain to treat Iranians

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

An undisclosed number of wounded Iranian soldiers were due to have arrived in London yesterday for treatment in British hospitals.

Some are thought to be suffering from burns inflicted by chemical weapons the Israelis are alleged to have been using in the Gulf War. But a Foreign Office spokesman refused to comment last night.

Whitehall officials said that injured soldiers had been arriving in Britain from Tehran "for many months". But the Foreign Office had no details of how many, or the nature of their injuries.

Nor would it say where in Britain the men would be treated. Officials said that they were coming to this country as private individuals and there was no reason why the Foreign Office should be told where they were going.

Iran has long complained of the use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi forces during the Gulf War but it was only when wounded soldiers began to arrive at hospitals in Sweden, Switzerland and other European countries that medical evidence began to emerge apparently confirming the Iranian claims.

NEW YORK: A United Nations mission to investigate allegations that Iraq is using chemical weapons in the Gulf conflict will arrive in Tehran today for an inquiry that will take the group of four independent experts to the war zone.

Tebbit to allow bid for P&O

By Michael Clark

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary, is expected to announce this week that Trafalgar House will be allowed to bid for Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Co (P&O) in return for a promise that it will not put P&O ships under foreign flags.

This follows a unanimous decision by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that Trafalgar should be allowed to bid. Its report was passed to Mr Tebbit three weeks ago.

The expected announcement from the Department of Trade may signal the start of one of the City's most fiercely contested bids. Trafalgar launched its original bid of £290m back in May on the basis of five Trafalgar shares for every four of P&O. With shares of Trafalgar closing last night at 238p worth £380m.

Yesterday Mr Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, said that the "commissions' decision was news to him. He added: "When we've got the commission's full report we'll read it and have a board meeting. Then we'll decide whether to bid again."

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of P & O, would only comment: "I await the outcome with interest."

The commission's decision centred on national security. It followed Trafalgar's unwritten undertaking not to "flag out" any of P & O's ships with foreign countries. During the Falklands conflict six Trafalgar ships were commandeered.

Barclays to sell stocks

By William Kay, City Editor

Barclays, Britain's biggest bank, is planning to sell stock market securities through its 2,000 branches, using a sophisticated system of electronic screens and keyboards.

This is how Barclays' customers will benefit from a linkup announced yesterday with two of the biggest firms on the London Stock Exchange, Wedd, Durlacher Mordant, and de Zoete and Bevan, Barclays

wants to buy a 75 per cent stake in each, once Stock Exchange rules permit.

The effect should be to cut the cost of buying small parcels of stocks and shares. Stock brokers normally charge at least £20, however small the deal, because of the time and paperwork involved.

Kenneth Fleet, page 19

Heath attacks attitude to EEC

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Government was accused yesterday by Mr Edward Heath of antagonising its partners in the European Community by adopting an attitude of confrontation in the negotiations for budgetary and agricultural reform.

He said there was nothing to be gained and that the British Government had, like President De Gaulle, lost a lot of goodwill. It was time for supporters of Britain's membership of the Community to insist that the language used by British ministers was changed.

Mr Heath's strictures, in an interview on BBC radio, were delivered at the most sensitive time - the culmination of the Government's diplomatic effort, begun in 1979, to secure permanent changes in the structure of the Community.

He singled out for reproach Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who yesterday began with his Community counterparts the final preparatory meeting for the European Council which convenes in Paris next week.

Mr Heath was all for trying to reduce Britain's net budget contribution, but said the Government had a much better chance of success if it were more forthcoming on other matters.

"Our partners want to have a cooperative partnership," he said. "We must... abandon any attempt to hold them to ransom."

Mr Heath is to visit Brussels today for private talks with members of the Commission and ministers were nervous that he might allow his lack of sympathy with the Government's approach to be exploited.

But they are even more nervous for the future if no overall settlement is reached or is in sight before the campaign begins for elections to the European Parliament.

In that event, the Conservatives will try to establish themselves as the party best qualified to drive a reasonable bargain with other Community members.

An important argument in their armoury will then be the Prime Minister's known readiness, seldom proclaimed but often hinted, to withhold Britain's contributions to the Community, for which legislation has been prepared.

Mr Heath made it plain yesterday that he will counter-attack on such things.

EEC crisis, back page

Gemayel ready to concede power

From Robert Fisk, Lausanne

The Syrian Foreign Minister arrived in Switzerland for the Lebanese reconciliation talks, which opened last night, to discover that President Gemayel is at last prepared to make concessions that give substantially more power to Muslims in Lebanon and weaken the hold of the Christian Maronites over the country's destiny.

A series of documents approved by Mr Gemayel after his visit to Damascus - but which were still secret from other Lebanese conference delegates last night - show that he is ready effectively to shift from Christian presidential to Muslim prime ministerial government; to end sectarian appointments in the civil service (which would deny Maronites some of the senior posts in the security police); to introduce a second parliamentary chamber and to give Muslims in the existing parliament a virtual monopoly on legislation.

In his opening address last night, President Gemayel spoke vaguely of reforms and the need to create a new government of national unity with Shia's help. But documents which became available to *The Times* yesterday, set out in detail how far he is prepared to go in meeting the claims of the Muslim leaders and militias - and the Syrians - who have broken his power in Lebanon.

Under his proposals, the Prime Minister - who under the national covenant has to be a Sunni Muslim - would be appointed by Parliament rather than the President. The President, always a Maronite, can still dismiss his government, but the resignation of only one third of the administration - almost half of which is always Muslim - would in future mean that the entire government has to tender its resignation.

The term of office of the Speaker, who must be a Shia Muslim, would be extended from one to two years. More importantly, legislation could only be passed with the assent of two thirds of MPs, which would in effect give Muslims a veto. At present, a 51 per cent majority, which can be engineered by Christian MPs, is sufficient.

Mr Gemayel is prepared to enlarge the assembly and to set up a senate "representing all Lebanese sects equally" and to ban sectarian appointments in the civil service. Citizens' religions would no longer appear on identity cards, which has hitherto led to thousands of murders after gunmen in Beirut and elsewhere demanded to know the religion of travellers.

Electoral law would be reformed and the President would set up a council, representative of the population, to carry out economic projects.

Lausanne letter, back page

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Revolution in genetic engineering heralds birth defect breakthrough

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A revolution in the early diagnosis of genetic birth defects is on the way after recent advances in genetic engineering.

Doctors and scientists in London, Oxford, Edinburgh, Italy and the United States are developing techniques that allow the defects to be diagnosed at about 10 weeks of pregnancy instead of the present 16 to 19 weeks.

At present the techniques are still at the research stage. However, they are already used to establish the sex of the fetus in families where there is a history of sex-linked disorders such as Duchenne's muscular dystrophy, the blood disorder haemophilia-A, a rare liver enzyme deficiency, and in X-linked mental retardation which accounts for about 20 per cent of all adult men in mental sub-normality hospitals.

Girls are not affected by these disorders although they can be carriers and pass them on to their children. Boys, however,

in families with a history of the conditions, have a 50 per cent chance of being affected. If the fetus is a male, mothers can be offered an abortion.

The technique is also being used experimentally to diagnose the blood disorder thalassaemia.

It is also being developed to identify fetuses at risk of Huntington's chorea, a condition that leads to grave mental deterioration in middle age, phenylketonuria, which can produce mental handicap in children, and in time, Down's syndrome.

At present many of these defects can be diagnosed by amniocentesis, a technique that involves passing a needle through the mother's abdomen to suck some of the fluid surrounding the fetus in its placental sac. Cells from this fluid are then grown and examined to see if the child is at risk. Amniocentesis cannot usually be undertaken before 16 weeks of pregnancy and it can

take three weeks or more for the results to be available.

With the new technique, obstetricians can pass a suction tube through the vagina and suck one or two of the chorionic villi from the surface of the placental sac. These villi, which look a little like the fronds on sea-anemones, implant in the lining of the womb to form the placenta.

Once removed, scientists can extract DNA from them, and using them, genetic engineering techniques can establish the sex of the fetus, or, in some cases, establish whether a defective gene is present that will cause one of the disorders.

Dr John Gosden, a scientist at the Medical Research Council's Clinical and Population Cytogenetics Unit in Edinburgh, who, with doctors from King's College Hospital, London, reported a further advance in the technique this week, said he thought that in time it would replace amniocentesis.

Supergrass use is defended by RUC chief

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The use of "supergrasses" to convict terrorists was defended by the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary yesterday on the ground that it had saved many lives in Northern Ireland.

But Sir John Hermon admitted that there was understandable distaste among the public that some former terrorists had been given immunity from prosecution for their part in serious crimes.

He said that the convictions of a number of people for the most appalling crimes had dealt a severe blow to the morale of republican and "loyalist" terrorist organizations and to their ability to destroy and murder.

In North Belfast since the arrest and conviction of people on the word of a Provisional IRA informer, Christopher Black, there had been a 73 per cent drop in terrorist murders and overall a 61 per cent reduction in terrorist activity, Sir John said.

"It is surprising that terrorist organizations and their propagandists are working so hard to destroy what the police are achieving," he asked, in his report for last year.

He said that he was satisfied beyond question that many people who would otherwise be dead were alive because of the process of converting terrorists.

The report shows that 77 people were killed in terrorist incidents last year compared with 97 in 1982 - the second lowest total since 1970.

There were 834 terrorist incidents, the lowest number since 1970, and security forces recovered 199 weapons and 1.7 tonnes of explosives.

Sir John emphasized that there could be no acceptable level of violence in Northern Ireland. The province was still under assault from various organizations and republican and loyalist paramilitary groups had gained a lucrative foothold in racketeering which could become a pernicious feature of social and economic life.

The Chief Constable placed great emphasis on the relationship between the public and the police, advancing his idea that the RUC's professionalism must include a highly developed understanding of community aspirations and sensitivities as opposed to what he described as "narrow selfish, isolated professionalism".

Retrial ordered

A Belfast judge yesterday ordered the retrial of three men accused of terrorist offences whose defence lawyer, Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, left the case and said last week that he was medically unfit to continue.



Hold very tight, please: Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, aboard the party's campaign bus for the European elections, with Mrs Barbara Castle, Labour's leader in Europe, and Stephen Lewis, the inspector in *On the Buses*.

Warning of deportations

Libyans questioned on bombs

By Stewart Tindler and Henry Stanhope

Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad yesterday held and questioned a number of Libyans about the weekend bomb attacks at the Tripoli representatives in London. The police strenuously denied any involvement by their government.

Yesterday the Foreign Office hinted that if Colonel Gaddafi's Government does not give assurances that the attacks will stop a number of deportations could follow. Libya replied, through a press conference in London yesterday, that it cannot stop what it does not control.

Actions by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office would be met with a like response from Tripoli but a spokesman for the Libyan People's Bureau, which represents the Gaddafi regime in Britain, would not be drawn into saying that this implied a threat to the 9,000 Britons working in Libya.

The Libyans held yesterday were taken to Paddington Green police station for interrogation after a series of raids. Scotland Yard would not disclose the number of arrests but said the process was continuing, with individuals being brought in and released.

Mr Omar Sodani, the bureau's press representative, complained that the police had harassed a number of students.



Omar Sodani: "Five believed to be held".

British Midland offers half-price fare to Belfast

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Air fares between London and Belfast will be nearly halved for a month when British Midland (BMA) launches a service in competition with British Airways later this month.

Compared with a regular one-way economy fare of £55 from May 1 (£56 by British Airways), from March 25 BMA will be offering a bookable "Key" fare of £29 for off-peak periods and £37 for peak flights for the first five weeks of the service.

Mr Colin Roberts, BMA's sales director, hinted yesterday that cheap fares may be extended beyond May 1. "We will review the results of the introductory offer when assessing the level of fare to be charged on this route in the future," he said.

BMA has won about a third share of the Glasgow and Edinburgh shuttles.

British Airways said last night that it was studying the implications of BMA's move.

Glaxo wins trade mark dispute over inhalers

Two pharmaceutical wholesalers Sigma Pharmaceuticals and Dowellhurst agreed yesterday in the High Court not to sell inhalers in packaging allegedly copied from the Glaxo group of companies for its widely used Ventolin anti-asthma inhalers.

The managing director of Dowellhurst, Mr Richard Taylor, and the company agreed to pay Glaxo £9,000 damages and costs. Dowellhurst and Mr Taylor also agreed to supply Glaxo with a list of suppliers and customers and to disclose the identity of the printer commissioned to produce the disputed packaging and to get him to sign an undertaking to Glaxo not to print any more.

Britain pays £2,370m for road accidents

Road accidents cost Britain £2,370m in 1982, the Department of Transport reported to the Commons transport committee yesterday.

This consisted of £900m in damage to vehicles and property, £720m for the effect of death and injury on pro-

Heseltine proposes combination of the defence staffs

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Plans for a reorganization at the Ministry of Defence were announced yesterday by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

They will greatly strengthen the role of the Chief of the Defence Staff at the expense of the chiefs of the individual Services.

After announcing his scheme in the Commons and publishing a consultative document, Mr Heseltine said that the proposed changes were his own and had been worked out with a very small number of people.

It appears that many people at very high levels within the ministry have learnt of his ideas only the past week.

Mr Heseltine told the Commons "I wish in future to draw a clearer distinction between the central formulation of advice on defence policy, operations and resource allocation and the management of the Services themselves."

"I intend to create a combined defence staff, responsible under the Chief of the Defence Staff and the Permanent Under-Secretary, for advising me on defence policy, military priorities, and the conduct of military operations. This staff would incorporate the relevant parts of the naval, general, and air staffs."

The proposed changes arise from the detailed study of the management structure of the ministry which Mr Heseltine has been conducting since he

introduced his MINIS management information system about a year ago.

The effect of these changes will be to deprive the chiefs of the individual Services of their own policy-forming staffs and make them much more dependent on advice from the central defence staffs.

They are likely to produce a big reduction in jobs, particularly at the highest levels.

Mr Heseltine said: "It is my job to manage the defence budget as effectively as I can. It is not my job to create as many jobs as possible for particular categories of people."

One of the effects seems likely to be to strike particularly at much of the policy work done under the vice-chiefs of the individual Services.

Attempts to strengthen the role of the central staffs against those of the individual Services have been made repeatedly since the creation of the single, integrated defence ministry in 1963.

Although the broad thrust of Mr Heseltine's proposals is clear, they still have to be worked out in detail. He hopes that that can be accomplished in time for a White Paper to be published before the summer recess.

Minis and the Development of the Organisation for Defence (Defence Open Government Document 84/03.)

Parliament, page 4

Jaguar cuts last links with BL

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Jaguar Cars is severing its two remaining links with BL to prepare for privatization this summer. It is starting its own parts warehouse and withdrawing from corporate wage negotiations.

Jaguar's return to its own parts operation is going smoothly but shop stewards representing 8,000 employees are opposing management proposals for separate pay talks.

They insist that before new negotiating machinery is set up, Mr John Egan, Jaguar's chairman, should give a signed undertaking that he will renegotiate everything agreed under the old corporate set-up.

The ultimatum has been rejected because Mr Egan concedes the huge advances made as a result of Sir Michael Edwards' battle with the unions to restore shop floor discipline.

Jaguar workers have always resented being associated with employees at Austin Rover, Land Rover and Unipart, believing that on their own they could win better pay and conditions.

Jaguar parts are stored at various locations throughout Britain and marketed by BL's Unipart company.

Unipart will continue to distribute under a contract covering the next three years

Filibuster faces a limited future

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The parliamentary filibuster - the frustration of progress on legislation by long speeches - could become obsolete under procedure reform to be considered shortly by a committee of MPs.

A new Commons Select Committee on Procedure is soon to be established to review the procedures of the standing committees, whose task is to carry out clause-by-clause and line-by-line examinations of Bills after they have received second readings, and to consider setting of a time limit on MPs' speeches.

In its consideration of the former proposal, the select committee will consider whether "guillotines" should be applied to all Bills, with specified time limits set for debate on each clause.

Pressure has been growing steadily for change, particularly from the new MPs. The traditionalists have always argued that the only weapon of an opposition against a government with a comfortable majority is time, but in practice that has not always been the case.

Increasingly under Labour and Conservative governments controversial legislation has been guillotined. Both sides often embark on a standing committee stage knowing that a guillotine is inevitable.

The result has been that

MPs often while away their time in committees for perhaps 100 hours discussing only the first two or three clauses of a multi-clause Bill, with some opposition MPs making speeches of prodigious length - often keeping the committee up all night.

The Government is then forced to introduce a guillotine, under ritual protest from the opposition, to set a timetable for the remainder of the discussion. It has already happened this session to the rates and telecommunications Bills.

MPs arguing for the change say that it would be a better scrutiny of legislation and better use of their time.

In considering whether to impose a time limit on speeches in the Commons the committee, which will also have power to consider other procedural changes if it wishes, will examine the results of the experiment in the last Parliament, when members were asked to observe a 10-minute limit during a specified period.

Any recommendations will be subject to approval. Mr John Biffen, leader of the House, told the Commons yesterday that these were "highly controversial" matters which the procedure committee would consider in its own time in its own way.

Sale room

Famous art nouveau cabinet fetches £124,075

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

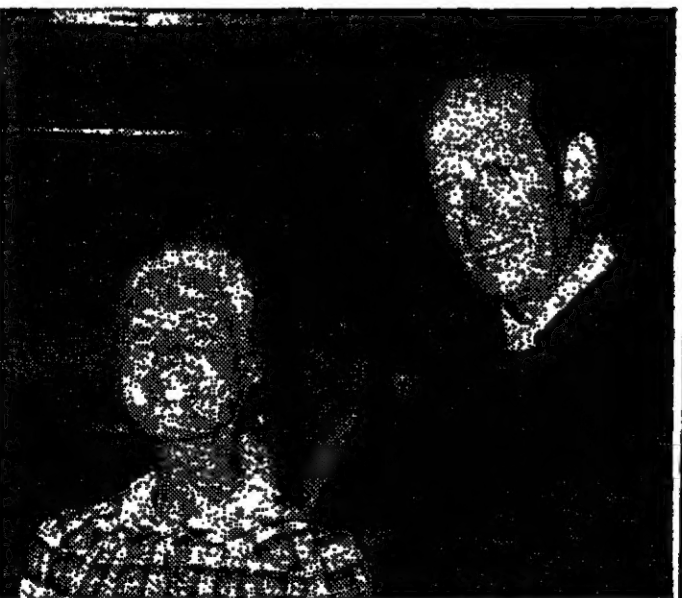
There was strong competition between private collectors and museums for the most distinguished pieces of Art Nouveau and Art Deco furnishings offered by Sotheby's in a Monte Carlo auction on Sunday night.

An ebony cabinet by Sue et Mare encrusted in mother-of-pearl and silver with a bouquet of flowers, reached 1,443,000 francs (estimate £400,000 to £600,000), or £124,075.

The cabinet came from the collection of Jane Renouardt at her Saint-Cloud villa whose decor was "created" in 1927 by Louis Süe. It has become one of the most famous pieces of designer furniture of the period, having featured in several recent books and exhibitions. It was bought by an unnamed private collector.

Another exceptionally stylish piece, was a stool with a curved seat supported by four pillars, the whole surface covered in shark's skin. It is by Jules Leleu and dates from around 1925 and sold for £245,200 (estimate £100,000 to £200,000), or £20,997, to an American private collector.

A European private collector made a deal set in the pieces designed by Josef Hoffman for the famous Wiener Werkstätte around the turn of the century.



Royal return: The Duke and Duchess of Kent arriving at Heathrow yesterday after their holiday on the Caribbean island of Mustique.

Errors in sale of college

The Government has acknowledged errors in its handling of the sale of Hamilton College of Education in Strathclyde, which was valued at £6m, with an estimated replacement cost of £20m, but was sold to the lowest bidder for luxury flats at a price of £680,000 (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

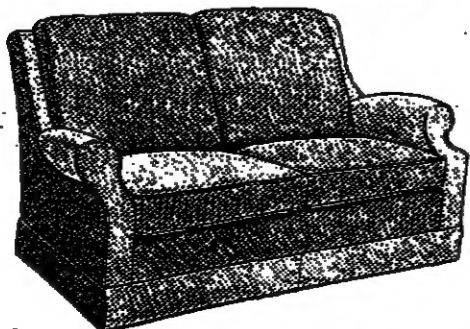
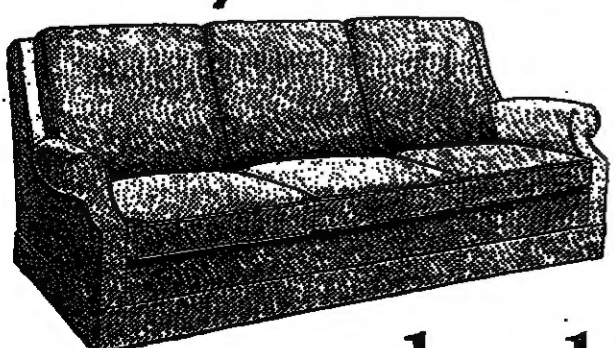
The Treasury and the Scottish Education Department said that more attention should have

been paid to the chief valuer's advice.

This was inadvertently not made known to the Treasury, however. The department denied that its approach was casual or inadequate.

The Commons Public Accounts Committee expressed astonishment last month at the department's alleged failure to investigate alternative disposal methods after only four low offers were received.

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Bird group protests at shooting of rare geese

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has complained to the European Commission about the shooting of Barnacle geese in the Hebridean island ofIslay.

The society accuses the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland of "irresponsibly" issuing shooting licences, and has suggested that the matter could be referred to the European Court.

As an internationally recognized rare species, the Barnacle goose is protected under British law and may be shot only under licence if it can be shown to be

damaging crops seriously. The geese breed in Greenland but winter in less frigid areas such as the west of Scotland. In 1982-83 winter more than 900 geese are said to have been shot in Islay, many by foreign tourists, including Italians.

The department denied responsibility in issuing licences, but said it was always willing to investigate allegations of misuse.

Water unions reject 4%

Unions in the water and sewerage industry rejected a 4 per cent pay offer last night. The industry's 28,000 manual workers are the third important public sector group after the miners and the gas workers to reject such an offer.

Overseas selling prices: Australia \$25, Belgium \$15, Canada \$25, Denmark \$25, France \$25, Germany \$25, Greece \$25, Ireland \$25, Italy \$25, Japan \$25, Korea \$25, Netherlands \$25, New Zealand \$25, Norway \$25, Portugal \$25, Spain \$25, Sweden \$25, Switzerland \$25, Taiwan \$25, Thailand \$25, United Kingdom \$25, USA \$25, West Germany \$25, Yugoslavia \$25.

Suspect was tied up and handcuffed before he collapsed, inquest told

By Craig Seton

An inquest into the death of James Davey was told yesterday that shortly before being taken unconscious to hospital he had been lying on the floor outside a police cell, tied and handcuffed.

Mr Davey died 11 days after a violent incident at Coventry police station. The inquest was told that before he was put in an ambulance Mr Davey, aged 40, was unconscious and discoloured at the police station.

When he arrived at a hospital nearby his heart and breathing had stopped and he had turned blue. Although resuscitated, he remained in a coma and was put on a life-support machine. He had been given cardiac massage and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation at the police station.

The family of Mr Davey, from Coventry, were in the county court for the start of the inquest, which is expected to last two weeks and hear at least 50 witnesses.

Mr Charles Kenderdine, the Coventry coroner, who is sitting with a jury, said that Mr Davey had been arrested at his parents home on March 11 last year and taken to Coventry police station.

The Metropolitan Police wanted to take him to London to interview him about a murder, but Mr Davey, said Mr Kenderdine, was alleged to have refused to go.

After a vehicle arrived at a violent incident occurred as Mr Davey was walking from his cell. He was then seen to be seriously ill.

Inspector Nicholas Adderley said that he was trying to arrange an escort for the Metropolitan Police officers who would take Mr Davey to London.

Mr Davey was sweating profusely in the cell and clearly excited because his eyes were staring. He was banging and shouting obscenities.

Mr Adderley said that later in a passageway near the charge room he saw Mr Davey lying face downwards. There was a rope around his lower legs and he had two pairs of handcuffs on.

"Sergeant Ian Speed was holding him in the region of his head. Davey was moving his arms but there was certainly no considerable struggle or anything of that nature. The situation was contained."

Mr Adderley said that he went into the charge room and became aware that officers were bringing Mr Davey through the doorway. The first indication that anything was wrong was the look on Police Constable Paul Wilkinson's face.

"They turned Mr Davey over and his face was discoloured."

He was certainly unconscious and a purple colour."

PC Wilkinson started cardiac massage. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation was also tried and an ambulance called, Mr Adderley said.

Dr Michael Williams, of the Coventry and Warwick Hospital, said that he saw Mr Davey at about 2.15am. According to the hospital log, he was blue, his breathing had stopped and he had fixed, dilated pupils.

The hospital notes recorded that Mr Davey had been "restrained while in custody, had become blue and collapsed."

The inquest was told that a screw up piece of cloth had been found in Mr Davey's rectum. Mr Kenderdine said that a witness was expected to state that it contained cannabis.

Cross-examined by Mr Michael Mansfield, for the Davey family, Mr Adderley said that Mr Davey had "a long criminal record of violence. I had personal experience of it a long time ago. I knew how violent he could be."

But Mr Adderley said that he had no reason to believe that any undue force was used on Mr Davey.

Mr Davey was jailed for six years in 1978 for assaulting Police Constable Brian Merry. The hearing continues today.



Miss Debbie Moore celebrating yesterday (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Prize for dance studio founder

By Alan Hamilton

It is no use just being pretty, Miss Debbie Moore, founder of the Pineapple Dance Studios, who was yesterday invested with the title Business Woman of the Year by one of Mr Margaret Thatcher's junior ministers, declared. You have to have credibility.

Miss Moore, a former model, aged 35 was awarded her title in the annual contest run by the makers of Veuve Clicquot champagne.

The widow Clicquot would no doubt have concurred with Miss Moore, who said at her investiture in the predominantly male enclave of the Institute of Directors in Pall Mall, London, that business acumen was essentially an ability to communicate with other people and make them believe in you.

That, she said, was a great deal easier in New York, where she is expanding her business and where they are much more

used to dynamic business-conscious women.

Miss Moore is now chairman and managing director of the dance studios. She opened a dance studio in a disused pineapple warehouse in Covent Garden in 1979; she is about to open additional studios in Kensington and New York. Her company went public in 1982 making her, according to the newspapers, a millionaire overnight.

Oxford tour sells image to schools

More than 400 Oxford undergraduates will soon be visiting comprehensive schools throughout Britain to meet sixth-formers under a scheme called Target Schools, run by Oxford University Students' Union.

The chairman of the organizing committee, Miss Janet Rogers, aged 21, said: "A lot of state school pupils don't consider applying for Oxford. They are put off by the 'hooray Henry' champagne party image of the university."

A mathematics undergraduate at St Catherine's College, who came from a comprehensive school in Staffordshire, she added: "In my experience most students here are not like that at all. For the most part, life is pretty mundane."

Pools winner leaves husband

A woman who won £106,340 on the pools late last month has left her husband.

Mrs Lilian Spring, aged 48, who ran the Merry Go Round public house in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, with her husband Cyril, aged 55, gave him £30,000 to cover their business debts and said she would not return.

Soulkeeper for Exeter City

Exeter City football club, which is bottom of the Third Division, has appointed a chaplain, Mr Richard Chewter, aged 29, an evangelist, who says his main concern will be the spiritual wellbeing of the squad.

Mr Gerry Francis, the manager, said: "We certainly need the help from above we can get." But Mr Chewter added: "I pray for souls, not goals."

Jilted lover gets life for murder

John Glynn, aged 35, of Chertsey Road, Whitton, South-west London, was yesterday jailed for life for murdering his rival while he lay in bed with his girlfriend. Mr John Perkins, aged 33, an electronics engineer, of Charles Drive, Laleham, near Staines, was stabbed six times with a carving knife last July.

Glynn pleaded not guilty to murder but was found guilty after a two-week trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Chair created in IT management

A new chair in the management of Information Technology, which has been created at Imperial College, London, will be taken later this year by Professor Igor Aleksander, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering at Brunel University.

Murder charge

Robert Ernest Walker, aged 49, unemployed, of St Mary's Road, Oxford, was remanded in custody for a week by Oxford magistrates yesterday charged with murdering Pauline Cantell, aged 16, of Swinburne Road, Oxford.

BBC drama delayed by scenery strike

By David Hewson

The BBC faces a great log jam of unfinished drama and light entertainment programmes as the strike by 700 sceneshifters enters its fourth week.

Its effects on broadcasts are minimal, but the strike could lead to a severe shortage of home-produced plays and shows if it continues.

Postponed programmes include the latest Shakespeare production *Titus Andronicus*, three plays of the month, a new series of *The Young Ones*, the *Kenny Everett Show*, and a Ronnie Corbett comedy *Sorry*.

The director of resources for BBC Television, Mr Michael Checkland, has written to all television staff giving a warning that the corporation will not contemplate a return to work under the old working arrangements demanded by the strikers.

The dispute centres on changes in working practices which involve no compulsory redundancies. About fifty members of the scenery staff have decided to work under the conditions on offer.

Mr Checkland's letter says that the changes would make the sceneshifters' jobs more secure.

The corporation says that it has offered to go to the conciliation service, Acas, but that has been rejected by the union, the Entertainment Trades Alliance.

"Throughout the long negotiations we hoped to achieve an agreement with the unions on the badly needed changes", Mr Checkland said. "It is a matter of regret that this was not possible, particularly since the strike is causing inevitable damage to programmes, some of which will never be made, even after a return to work."

The dispute is affecting *Blue Peter*, *Top of the Pops*, *Medical Express*, and *Tomorrow's World*, which are being produced with "compromise sets", scenery below normal standard.

Patients in private health care warned

By Patricia Clough

Patients were advised yesterday that if they suffered complications after an operation they stood a better chance of survival with the National Health Service than at private hospitals.

A leaflet produced by the NHS Consultants Association and NHS Unlimited says only 45 of England's 175 private hospitals have a resident doctor.

The leaflet is intended to counter the £3m-a-year promotion by private insurance organizations. Mr Frank Dobson, Labour shadow Minister for Health and chairman of NHS Unlimited, said the two groups wanted to warn people that private medicine was "not all it is cracked up to be".

● Private hospitals and specialists can cost more than the company will pay. Nearly 10 per cent of subscribers to BUPA, one of the main organizations, find treatment costs are not fully covered.

● Private insurance does not pay for childbirth, private treatment from a general practitioner, or a long stay in a nursing home.

● Premiums increase drastically - possibly prohibitively - after the age of 65.

● Private medicine drains health service resources, relying on staff trained at taxpayers' expense.

A BUPA spokesman said: "This is confusing the issue. Private insurance is intended to complement the health service. It is there primarily to provide specialist treatment in case of injury or illness."

He said all BUPA hospitals had resident medical staff and equipment, insurance premiums are rising largely because of the increasingly sophisticated equipment, and patients should check whether their treatment cost was covered by the insurance they had chosen.

Conveyance evidence is invited

By Frances Gibb

A call for evidence on the measures needed to ensure consumer protection if solicitors are permitted to do conveyancing was made by the government-appointed committee on conveyancing yesterday.

The 14-member committee, under Professor Harry Street, Professor of English law at Manchester University, was announced by Mr Patrick Mayhew, QC, the Solicitor General, last month.

It has been asked to report to the Lord Chancellor on the issue of licensed, non-solicitor conveyancers by September and is inviting evidence to be submitted by April 19.

The committee, which consists of representatives of bodies including the Law Society, Consumers' Association, National Institute of Conveyancing Agents, and of banks, estate agents, building societies, and local councils, has to consider what tests or evidence of competence would be needed for non-solicitor conveyancers.

Evidence on tests of competence should be sent to Mr Nick Smedley, conveyancing committee secretary, at the Lord Chancellor's Department, Neville House, Page Street, London SW1.

Century's housing aim forecast

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

About three million houses need to be built by the end of the century to satisfy increasing demand, the Housing Research Foundation says in a report published today.

The need is likely to be about 220,000 houses a year until 1991 and 200,000 a year until 2000, according to figures based on research into potential demand.

The report, prepared by builders and planners nominated by the foundation, the Royal Town Planning Institute, and the House Builders Federation, believes that target can be achieved without any great effect on the countryside.

"It seems probable", it says, "that substantially less than 1 per cent of the total land in England and Wales will be developed for housing in the rest of this century. Even when other urban uses are taken account of, by the year 2000 about 88 per cent of our land surface will still be rural, compared with the present 89 per cent."

The report concludes: "The encouraging fact is that in most areas there is capacity to allow both for the protection of the countryside and to build the number of houses we need. Wise use of our planning system should make it possible to achieve both objectives."

Mr Andrew Tait, director of

the foundation and director-general of the National Housing Building Council, said yesterday that 1984 was the first time that anybody had taken a serious look at the future for housing and land requirements.

The report, *Housing and Land: 1984-1991: 1992-2000*, says that until 1991 about 145,000 new houses will be needed each year to cater for the growing number of new households. In addition, between 60,000 and 80,000 new houses are required to replace demolitions.

At present, the annual rate of demolitions is slightly more than 16,000 compared with 70,000 in 1971, and the report insists that that level must be increased. "Even if we demolished 30,000 houses each year, three times the present number, it would still take about 400 years to replace the housing stock."

Partly as a result of the level of demolition, the level of new building in cities and towns now accounts for about 15 per cent of all new building. "With vigorous efforts it may be possible to raise that proportion this decade to 20 per cent."

Most of the remaining 80 per cent of production would continue to be on sites on the periphery of cities and large towns, and within and round smaller towns and villages.

Museum refuses to hand over prison camp diary

A former Serviceman who found his long-lost war diaries in a display case at the Imperial War Museum, in London, has had his request to have them back refused.

Mr Hedley Bonnes, of Eckington, near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, said that the diaries, an account of three years a prisoner of the Japanese, were lost after being lent to friends.

Mr Bonnes, who was a corporal in 605 RAF squadron when captured, said yesterday: "I used to keep notes on scraps of paper about life in the prison camp and the chaps who died there. I hid the paper in boxes that contained the ashes of dead comrades."

Poison murder charge

A research chemist who boasted that he knew how to commit the perfect murder poisoned his mistress with chloroform after sexual intercourse, a court was told yesterday.

However, attempts by David Harvey, to make the death look like natural causes failed to fool expert investigators, it was said.

Mr Harvey, aged 44, of Byron Road, Chelmsford, Essex, de-

Mr Bonnes said that he was told that the diaries were in the museum. The museum said the diaries "said they had bought them at auction and were legally entitled to them."

"They are a part of my past", Mr Bonnes said. "We even offered to pay the full market price for them but were refused."

A museum spokesman said: "The diaries were bought in good faith. Mr Bonnes and his family are welcome to come and look at them at any time."

"They would probably have been lost for good if the museum had not bought them and kept them in a safe condition."

nies murdering Mrs Betty Amor, aged 54, and administering a noxious substance to endanger life.

Mrs Margaret Puxon, C, for the prosecution said that Mr Harvey killed Mrs Amor before setting off on a business trip.

Mrs Puxon said Mr Harvey claimed that they had used chloroform as a sex aid.

The trial, at Chelmsford Crown Court, continues today.

HMV demands an end to dog label parody

By Our Arts Correspondent

EMI Records is preparing to go to court over Nipper, the dog on the His Master's Voice record label.

It has been angered by an independent record company Dead Dog Records, which parodies the HMV label.

EMI says that the Dead Dog label will imply a connexion between the two companies and has threatened legal action unless it is withdrawn within 14 days.

The validity and reputation of this trade mark are of the utmost importance and, for many years, we have actively protected the reputation of this mark and have taken determined action to protect about and to act against its unauthorized use."

Mr John Clare, a director of Dead Dog Records, said: "It is not our intention to cause any confusion between the two companies, but we have grown quite attached to our dead dog and would prefer not to lose him."

The original painting which hangs in EMI headquarters, is the work of Francis Barraud, who portrayed his dog Nipper gazing into a gramophone horn.

Rights case over deportation

By Pat Healy, Race Relations Correspondent

The Government is to be taken to the European Commission of Human Rights after deporting to Turkey yesterday the father of two British children who are in hiding in London with their mother.

The Children's Legal Centre, which has urged the lifting of deportation orders on the parents of Zeynep Hasbudak, aged eight, and her brother Fatih, aged six, will allege that the deportation of Mr Polat Hasbudak and the outstanding deportation order against his wife, Kebire, breach the European Convention on Human Rights.

Minister of State at the Home Office, yesterday said that the deportation orders will stand against the parents, who are admitted over-stayers, and that Mrs Hasbudak will also be deported if she is discovered by the police.

In a letter to Mr Brian Sedgmore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shore-ditch, Mr Waddington wrote: "I am not without sympathy for the children but I remain unconvinced that the compassionate features of the children's circumstances are sufficiently compelling to justify revoking deportation orders made against their parents."

The Children's Legal Centre yesterday wrote to Mr Waddington arguing that the children should not be inappropriately detained or deported if discovered with their mother.

The Home Office is hoping that the parents will take their children to Turkey, to avoid them having to go into care of a local authority, but the parents want them to stay in Britain.

Mr Sedgmore protested last night at what he described in a letter to Mr Waddington as an "incomprehensible decision".

Mr Hasbudak was arrested by police last week when he went to a north London post office.

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PARLIAMENT March 12 1984

Ministry changes to create greater efficiency

DEFENCE

The management structure in the Ministry of Defence is to be reorganised in an attempt to make it more efficient, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, announced in a statement to the Commons.

He said that in future he would look to the Chief of the Defence Staff and the Permanent Under Secretary as his two principal advisers.

Mr Heseltine said: "This Government has increased significantly the defence budget reflecting the priority we attach to national security. By 1986-87, defence expenditure is planned to be 23 per cent higher in real terms than in 1978-79."

The threat we face from the Soviet Union and the growing cost of defence technology justify this policy.

At a time of rising defence expenditure, it is particularly important that we satisfy the public - who bear the cost of defence - of our determination to ensure that the resources made available are put to best effect. We must ensure that the resources are applied to enhance the fighting effectiveness of our Armed Forces and there can be no place for unnecessary bureaucracy and overheads.

As Defence Secretary, I introduced a new Management Information System - MINIS.

Using this, I have carried out a review of the organization of the ministry itself and of staff outside the front line. I have been much impressed by the quality of the staff - both military and civilian - working in these areas.

But the organization for defence has not only partly been carried through; the ministry has a more federal structure than envisaged then and lines of accountability are blurred. There is overlap between the military and civilian commands. As a result, the organization is less economical than it should be.

In judging the appropriate management structure for the department, my overriding aim has been to strengthen the fighting effectiveness of our forces.

Nothing must be done which would weaken the separate identities and traditions of the three fighting Services.

They play a vital part in the morale of our front line units.

But I do see a need to change the constitutional framework provided by the Defence Council and the three Service Boards. But, within this framework, I wish in future to draw a clearer distinction between the central formulation of defence policy, operations and resource allocation, and the management of the Services themselves.

I intend to create a combined Defence Staff, responsible under the Chief of the Defence Staff and the permanent Under Secretary for advising me on defence policy, military priorities and the conduct of military operations. This staff would incorporate the relevant parts of the Naval, General and Air Staffs.



Marshall: Lessons from the Falklands

exercise in the next few years, there will be no major defence review because the Government cannot maintain its present defence commitments and objectives.

Mr Heseltine: There is no defence review in prospect, so far as I am aware (laughter). In the budgets to which we are working we can meet the objectives to which the Government has set its hand.

The review will cover the Procurement Executive and I have already asked the Defence Industries Council to help me in looking at the interface between the Procurement Executive and the arms manufacturing industries to ensure that we get better value for money.

My proposals involve a greater degree of centralization but that is precisely why the ministry was set up to take over the three Armed Services in 1963.

Sir Anthony Beck (Colchester North, C): Is this an extension of something started by Admiral Lewin and Mr Heseltine's predecessors? Is he satisfied that we shall be in a better position to deal with the unexpected than we were in the past?

Mr Heseltine: The concepts on which I have embarked had their foundations with some earlier generations of politicians, and particularly perhaps were associated with the Earl of Stockton, who was involved 20-odd years ago.

The original concepts owe much in design to the late Earl Mountbatten and the late Viscount Montgomery who commanded great military forces in the field and saw the benefit of a unified approach.

Mr Marilyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab): There is a need to centralize the advice given to the Secretary of State on finances, will he be aware of weakening and diluting the advice from individual Services because, too often, what emerges out of committee is the centre of defence matters is wrong.

Mr Heseltine: In a centralized structure, there will have to be single Service building blocks. I am seeking to replace the situation where at present so much advice depends on three individual definitions of staff which can be competitive in their approach.

Mr Michael Marshall (Arun, C): What does he hope to achieve in terms of improved defence procurement from the lessons of the Falklands campaign?

Mr Heseltine: When I visited the Falklands, people at all levels in each of the Services told me that one lesson they learnt was that great benefit was to be gained from the individual armed Services working closely more closely with their counterparts in the other two Services. I hope we will be able to carry through this lesson in the way we run the defence programme.

Coal strike: Walker not to intervene

PIT CLOSURES

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, made clear in the Commons that he did not intend to intervene in the coal mining dispute over pit closures. He declared during question time that the events of the day had certainly shown that miners would like the opportunity of a secret ballot to express their views.

He said the management's position was clear in that it wanted to invest more in economic mines and cut out the burden of uneconomic pits in a civilized and generous way. It was disastrous to pretend that it was in the interests of the miners to keep uneconomic pits open.

Mr Allen McKay (Barnsley, West and Penistone, Lab) had asked if the Secretary of State had discussed with Mr MacGregor, chairman of the NCB, the statement by Mr Norman Siddall, the previous chairman, concerning the so-called approach to colliery closures.

Mr Walker: He is talking about a chairman who has kept up massive investment in the coal industry, who has recently persuaded the Government to invest £400m into the development of Ashford pit and at pits that have been closed, has offered miners alternative jobs or options of early retirement.

Sir John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam, C): Mr MacGregor has a similar experience in the steel industry to that he is facing, and that would lead him to give Mr Arthur Scargill the same advice as he gave to the leaders of the steel workers, to go slowly to ensure that the steel industry is not put at risk by the one-sided government in Europe is in France where, having promised the miners increased production, they have now decided to get rid of half the industry.

Mr Geoffrey Lathams (Pontefract and Castleford, Lab): The British Gas Corporation is expected by the turn of the century to be needing about 90 million tonnes of coal. What plans are there for the investment to provide that coal at that time?

Mr Walker: That figure is not in any projections I have received.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C): It is not time the chairman of the coal board came out what has become the so-called approach. We cannot go on investing £300m a year in new investment if that is going to be swallowed up in continually rising costs.

making mines. In the end it will ruin the industry altogether and the taxpayers' pockets of £100m - and bring both sides together?

Does he not think that the MacGregor plan should be put on one side while meaningful discussions take place? - It is his responsibility to bring the two sides together as early as possible?

Mr Walker: No. Last week both sides met and they decided they were going to prepare a number of suggestions with which they could collectively come to me and put views.

Both sides come to me with certain aspects of their policy, I would be only too pleased to see them and discuss matters with them, but certainly I am not going to intervene. It is basically a clear-cut management position of a management that wishes to invest more in economic mines and cut out the burden of uneconomic pits in a civilized and generous way.

Mr Walker, in answer to a question, said the effect of the overtime ban, which was now entering its 20th week, was most severe on those imposing it.

By March 2 (the said) miners had lost £69.3m, the equivalent of more than two weeks wages for every man in the industry.

Sir William de Souza (Wokingham, C): He has the total support of Conservative MPs when he indicated he was not going to interfere in management decisions.

In the present situation these decisions are based on a circumstance where, through the back door, the NUM leadership is trying to secure a national strike in respect of which it is not prepared to ballot its own members.

Mr Walker: The potential for this industry, modernized and without the burden of uneconomic pits, will be very much to the benefit of the miners.

Mr Alexander Eadie (Midlothian, Lab): The report of the Select Committee on Energy illustrated that despite Mr MacGregor's statement to the nation that everything was going well under his chairmanship, the NCB will probably lose about £20m.

Why is it the only person who seems to support Mr MacGregor is the Prime Minister? Why does not Mr Walker come clean and say Mr MacGregor is a disaster and is plunging the industry into conflict?

Mr Walker: Contrary to being a disaster, Mr MacGregor has just announced it will have the size of its coal industry.

Mr Terry Patchett (Barnsley East, Lab): Would he agree with the statement by Mr Norman Siddall regarding the massive task of returning the industry to profitability within three years to be correct? Would he agree that the present management commitment is injuring rather than helping the situation?

Mr Walker: What I am saying is that, for example the number of closures over this last year with the many difficulties that have been created, is low compared with the number of closures under the

particular union leader. One other person the industry needs to be safeguarded from is Mr Benn.

Mr Orme: When was Mr Walker informed that the NCB had lost £135m? This was made plain in the select committee's report. Has not Mr MacGregor got it wrong? Mr Walker should have a fresh look at the situation, and the MacGregor plan should be withdrawn while this takes place.

Mr Walker: The £135m is a loss of the stocks of coal at the pithead which will not be as large as they would otherwise have been. As they are already on a massive scale, there is no great problem for the NCB. As the select committee report shows, the actual cash flow of the NCB has improved.

Labour Government when they were almost a regular feature.

In 11 years of Labour Government there were 300 pit closures whereas in the last five years under the Conservatives there have been 92 closures.

Mr Trevor Skeet (Bedfordshire, North, C): In the past 7 years we have spent £7,000m on mines which is the equivalent of receipts from taxation from the north Sea in one year. Is there not a limit to the capital expenditure and other social benefits?

Mr Walker: It is vital for this country to have a strong and successful coal industry going into the next century. That is why Mr MacGregor has been correct to continue with a high level of capital investment, likewise he is also correct to proceed in a civilized way with the closure of uneconomic pits.

Mr Neil Hamilton (Tatton, C): Members of this House are scandalized to hear of losses of this year to which has to be added £700m to £800m for investment. Should we not accelerate pit closures to take account of this appalling loss of money and hemorrhage of a British industry?

Mr Walker: It is important that we maintain a successful coal industry for the future and we close the uneconomic pits in a civilized and generous way. Many of these pits are total communities and there are difficulties. The House should show understanding of the problems. Mr MacGregor and the coal board are doing just that.

Mr Kevin Barron (Rother Valley, Lab): How many new pits have been given planning permission since May 1979?

Mr Walker: I could give details of substantial investment in existing pits and enormous potential at Selby where we have invested £400m and the development at Ashford.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C): Will he discuss with Mr MacGregor the possibility of giving pits which are at present uneconomic to the miners on the site to operate as a co-operative?

Mr Walker: We would carefully consider any proposal to give pits along those lines but I have not seen any such proposals.

Mr Edward Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, Lab) for the Opposition: Mr MacGregor gave evidence to the select committee that taking into account the so-called savings of the overtime ban, the net total cost for the financial year of the overtime ban as £135m. When did the Secretary of State find out that figure?

Mr Walker: The figures of the NCB were produced a week before the select committee and given in my evidence to the select committee. We both gave that evidence. The profit and loss on the revenue account is a different factor to the cash flow. The select committee was informed of this last year with the many difficulties that have been created, is low compared with the number of closures under the

consequences for the security of the West and Britain if Turkey were to withdraw from Nato.

Mr Donald Anderson, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said that by the time the House debates Turkey before there was any fundamental change in human rights, particularly in relation to an amnesty for political prisoners in Turkish jails, the Government was ignoring the cries of those being tortured in prison, hunger strike and suffering other abuses.

Mr Raymond Whitney, Under Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said in general relations with Turkey were in good repair as befitted a relationship which had extended over 400 years.

The Government had consistently made clear to the Turkish Government its concern about the violation of human rights which had occurred in that country.

By placing them even more regularly on the menu, schools and households might follow the example and give British puddings a new life.

Mr Montgomery: During the 32-week sitting, rice pudding appeared over 50 times and plum pie was on offer 15 times around Christmas and 10 times during the rest of the year.

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Animal welfare Bill in a later session

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government intends to look into the question of tightening up the law on animal experiments and a Bill on the subject is expected later this Parliament, Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, told the House of Lords at question time.

He said: There will not be a Bill this session, but if room can be found in the 1984-85 session we should be ready for it. Because of the pressure of other commitments in the legislative programme, the Bill may not be ready until later this Parliament.

Lord Mischon, for the Opposition, spoke of the shock and horror that people have felt on hearing about live animals being subjected to experiments with bullets.

Lord Elton: All normal people dislike the infliction of pain. That is why we have legislation to prevent it being wantonly used.

He pointed out that the experiments referred to could only be used for a proper purpose and only under anaesthesia.

Adviser no longer attached to Acas

GCHQ

Mr John Lambert, who has been made available to the Government Communications Headquarters, Cheltenham, on future management-employee relations, is a career civil servant with the Department of Employment, who had recently worked in Acas for just over a year.

Mr Barsey Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, said during Commons questions. Acas itself, he explained, was not involved in any way.

Mr Hayhoe said Mr Lambert had returned to the Department of Employment last week from Acas.

Mr Tom Dallyell (Lincolnshire, Lab) had asked if it was true or proper for Acas, in the form of Mr Lambert, to be drawn into the controversial mire at Cheltenham.

Mr Hayhoe said he was glad to be asked the question because it was even though the question was properly one for the Secretary of State for Employment (Mr Tom King).

Mr O'Donnell McDonald (Thurrock, Lab): Mr Hayhoe's Opposition. The answer does not satisfy the House. It

is merely sleight of hand, the decision to release the official was taken without consultation with the Council of Civil Service Unions.

The utter insensitivity of sending an Acas official even under the conditions Mr Hayhoe has outlined, to be a staff association after the ban on trade union membership at GCHQ, is bound to cast doubt on the role of Acas as a neutral mediator in future industrial disputes. It is damaging to industrial relations.

Mr Hayhoe: I can understand Dr McDonald's misunderstanding of the position before my answer which was in clear terms. But it is incredible that she persists in her questioning after it.

Mr Greville Jaeger (Leicester West, Lab) asked for a firm undertaking that the Government had no plans whatever to introduce any further bans on trade union activity like that at GCHQ anywhere in the United Kingdom.

Mr Hayhoe: The assurance has been given in the clear terms of the Prime Minister and by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Sir Geoffrey Howe). There is no intention of introducing similar action.

Timetabling of all Bills urged

PROCEDURE

A new Procedure Committee has been proposed to review existing committee procedures. Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House, stated during question time in the Commons.

There is on the Order Paper of the Commons a motion indicating that, in addition, the new Procedure Committee will be asked to look at setting time limits on speeches.

Mr Biffen was replying to Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C) who asked: Will he at least do all he can to ensure that the Commons does not discontinue the possibility of a timetable or guideline on all Bills going through Parliament?

All controversial Bills are guillotined and have a timetable. It was this that was agreed at the outset. This would lead to more reasoned and better scrutiny of Bills.

Mr Biffen: These are highly controversial matters which the Procedure Committee will consider in its own time and own way.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Budget statement. Lords (2.30): Education (Grants and Awards) Bill, third reading. Cable and Broadcasting Bill, third reading.

Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written reply that the Government had received £3,274m in petrol revenue tax in 1982/83.

Relations with Turkey in good repair

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Abuses of human rights and individual liberty were still manifest in Turkey even after the so-called elections. Mr Christopher Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) said in opening a debate on Britain's relations with Turkey.

He said it seemed Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, had been given, his head by the military authorities to deal with economic questions but everything to do with civil liberties and security was kept firmly in the hands of the military.

He had visited Turkey last summer and found considerable evidence of widespread use of torture. He personally spoke to three people who had been tortured by the military authorities.

The election of Mr Ozal rather than the favoured military candidate was an example of the Turkish people seeking a snoop at the

military regime. It was not an indication that the elections were free of fully democratic.

The British Government had been far too complacent and far too silent over the denial of human rights. It was ironic that Nato, which was supposedly in being to defend democracy, supported a nation which abused human rights and individual liberties.

Mr Richard Hickmet (Glasford and Scunthorpe, C) said Mr Smith's speech totally ignored the great difficulties which Turkey had been under for the past few years. To make such wild accusations was not only naive, but dangerous.

The people in Turkey today could walk the streets freely without the danger of being shot.

Britain should do all it could to welcome Turkey's return to democracy and give it every encouragement to ensure its continuation and expansion. He hoped the British Government was aware of the grave

do this moved by Lord Bruce of Donington, for the Opposition, was rejected by 114 votes to 68 - Government majority, 46.

Lord Bruce said he was seeking to give the Commons an opportunity to reconsider the Government's withdrawal proposal to privatise BT. Lord Cockfield, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said during a discussion in the House of Lords on the report stage of the Telecommunications Bill to privatise British Telecom.

He was less interested. An Opposition attempt to remove from the Bill the clause which abolishes BT's exclusive privilege to run telecommunications systems. An amendment, to

consequences for the security of the West and Britain if Turkey were to withdraw from Nato.

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Japanese video recorder plant in Wales will bring 630 jobs

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

More than 600 jobs are to be created in the next four years in Wrexham, North Wales, at a video recorder manufacturing plant to be built by the Japanese Sharp Corporation at a cost of £15m.

The factory will initially make recorders to be sold in Britain, then for sale in Europe. About 60,000 are expected to be made in the first year, rising to about 240,000 in the fourth year. The workforce will start at 240, rising to 630 in the fourth year.

The 27-acre "green field" site has been chosen in preference to others in Europe because of the government grants, availability of labour, availability of components, local educational facilities, and the ease of distribution.

In the initial stages only 25 per cent of the recorders will have European content, which is expected to rise to 45 per cent as the company gears itself to full production. No quota of British content is required by the Government.

Announcing the plan yesterday, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said: "The Principality has again proved itself able to stand up to the rigorous demands that Japanese companies rightly require in selecting overseas locations for investment."

Wales has been particularly successful in attracting high technology investment and now boasts that nine Japanese companies have set up manu-

facturing plants there. Among these are the consumer electronic market leaders, Sony, Hitachi and Matsushita.

Nineteen overseas companies have announced their intention to create bases in Wales in the past year, which have provided about 2,600 new jobs. The expansion plans for present and new companies have amounted to about £100m in Wales since last April.

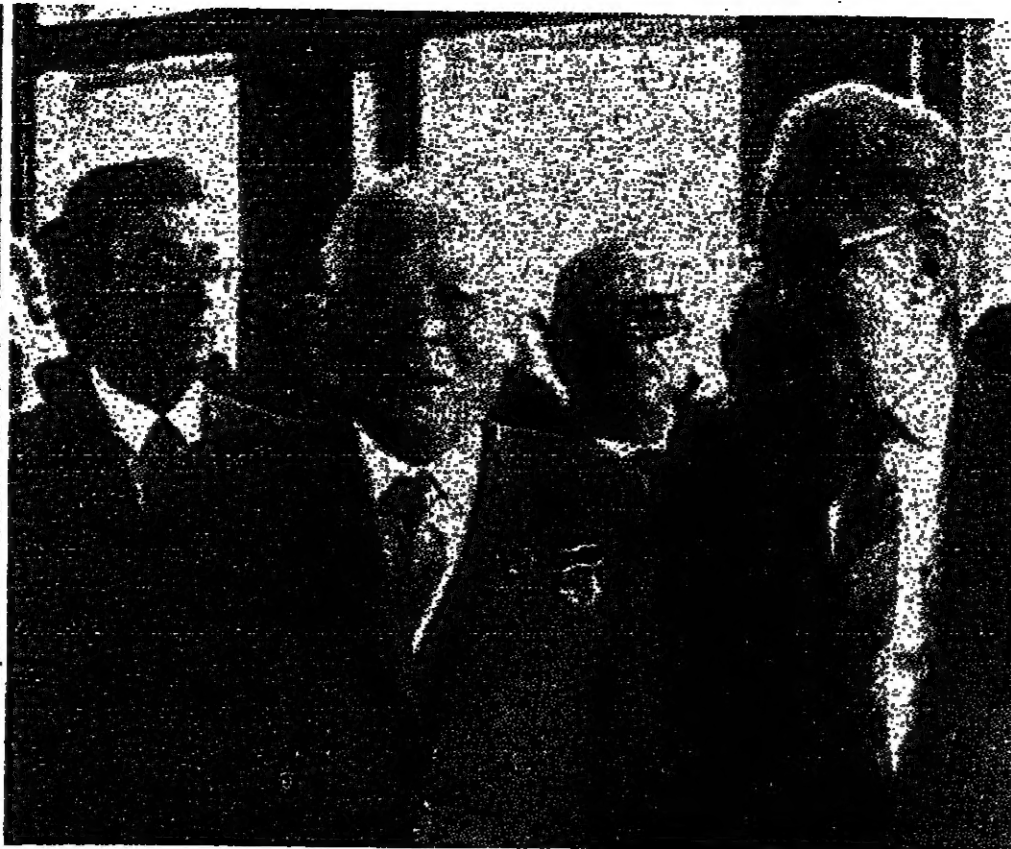
The video recorder plans of Sharp is the second important video investment in Wales announced in the past four weeks. In the middle of February the United States company 3M disclosed plans for an £18m investment into its videotape manufacturing plant at Swansea.

The Welsh plant will compete with the products produced by Sanyo in Lowestoft, Suffolk; Mitsubishi in Livingston, West Lothian; and Thorn-EMI plants.

Mr Edwards refused yesterday to say how much government money had gone into attracting the Japanese company to North Wales.

"The negotiations are confidential at the moment, but they will be announced in three months time as is usual."

Mr Edwards said: "In their discussions with me, Sharp have laid enormous emphasis on the importance of being able to acquire high quality components within the European Community and particularly in Britain."



Moscow meeting: Mr Chernenko with a smiling Herr Vogel after their talks.

East-West tension worries Chernenko

Moscow (AP) — Mr Konstantin Chernenko, the Soviet leader, and other top Soviet officials told West German Social Democrats yesterday that current superpower tension is dangerous but "not irreversible."

West German sources said. The sources, who spoke on condition that they not be identified, said Mr Chernenko and others meeting Herr Hans-

Jochen Vogel, the West German Social Democratic leader, emphasizing their worry about the current international situation during three hours of talks.

Herr Vogel and his Social Democratic colleagues Herr Egon Bahr, Herr Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski and Herr Karsten Voigt, all specialists in East-West affairs, met for two hours with Soviet officials before Mr

Chernenko joined the group.

Herr Vogel then met Mr Chernenko alone for 20 minutes. Sources described this meeting as "open, useful and constructive" but gave no details of what was discussed.

West German reporters allowed into the start of the Chernenko meeting said the 72-year-old Soviet leader appeared "rather short of breath" and supported himself on a chair

Honecker expected to visit Bonn

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

East German newspapers carried front-page reports yesterday of the meeting on Sunday between Herr Erich Honecker and four leading West German politicians, underlining the party leader's desire to improve relations with West Germany, and preparing his countrymen for the likely announcement of his first official visit to West Germany.

Herr Honecker held separate talks at the opening of the Leipzig Spring Fair with Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Bavarian Prime Minister, Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Bonn Economics Minister, Herr Oskar Lafontaine, a prominent left-wing Social Democrat, and Herr Werner Zeyer, the Prime Minister of Saarland, where Herr Honecker grew up.

Herr Strauss said afterwards that the East German leader would probably visit the Federal Republic towards the end of the year.

Count Lambsdorff held further talks in Leipzig yesterday with Herr Günter Mittag, a senior politburo member responsible for the economy, and also with the Minister of Foreign Trade, at which they discussed the development of economic relations.

Herr Eberhard Diepgen, the Mayor of West Berlin, was also in Leipzig yesterday, the first mayor of the city to go there.

An unprecedented throng of almost 90 West German politicians have gone to Leipzig, making this year's fair one of the most extraordinary gatherings of leading figures of both German states and underlining the marked improvement in relations over the past year. As well as one Cabinet minister, there were three state prime ministers, seven state ministers and 78 members of the Bundestag and of state parliaments.

Herr Strauss, paying his second visit to East Germany in eight months, said the possibility of a new West German loan was not discussed during his hour's talk with Herr Honecker.

But he said he expected East Germany would continue to allow a large number of its citizens to emigrate to the West, and said that on this point East Berlin had kept its word in making concessions in return for the DM 1,000m (£250m) credit that Herr Strauss was largely instrumental in arranging last year.

He said Herr Honecker had hinted that a decree last autumn legalizing emigration would lead to a permanent increase in the numbers allowed to leave. At present some 100 people a day, including many young people, are being granted exit visas.

Count Lambsdorff took a personal message to Herr Honecker from Chancellor Helmut Kohl. His visit was brought forward a day, which occasioned more skirmishes with Herr Strauss, whose supporters saw this was an attempt to cut down the impact in Bonn of his own visit.

Mother and son freed by Sudan's rebels

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Mrs Ursula Morson, a West German, and her 13-month-old son, were receiving medical attention in Addis Ababa yesterday after being freed by southern Sudanese rebels who held them hostage for a month.

Serious concern had been felt for Mrs Morson, who is more than eight months pregnant, but she was stated to be in good health.

Her husband, Gwynne, a Kenyan, is still held by the rebels, along with a British technician, Mr Ian Bain, and two French engineers.

They were all captured when guerrillas of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement attacked the camp of the French company building the Jonglei Canal on the Nile.

The guerrillas, who had been pressed to free Mrs Morson and her son, sent a message to the Ethiopian authorities early this month to say she would be handed over to them, but with the subsequent delay there were more fears for her safety.

Reports said Mrs Morson was carried on a stretcher across the border into Ethiopia near Gambela. She was flown to Addis Ababa, and immediately admitted to hospital.

The rebels who attacked the Jonglei Canal camp killed an Australian pilot. They accused the construction company, CCT, of assisting Sudanese military forces in the area.

Union pioneers computer retraining programme

Electricians are to be retrained in a teaching programme combining video discs with microcomputers at their trade union college at Cudham, south London.

The Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union claims to be the only trade union with facilities for running such courses.

Mr Frank Chapple, the general secretary of the union, said: "The joint development of the interactive video disc learning system combines a training programme on microelectronic technology with the very latest in teaching techniques."

The system is to be developed jointly by the union and Epic Industrial Communications, supported by a 60 per cent grant from the Department of Trade and Industry.

The courses to be taught include the basic principles of electricity and electronics. The discs contain dozens of pictures which can be projected on to a television screen. The computer will be able to draw on the screen in seconds the electrical circuits required during training.

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National Savings Deposit Bond.

DESCRIPTION
National Savings Deposit Bonds (bonds) are Government securities issued by the Treasury under the National Loans Act 1968. They are registered on the National Savings Stock Register and are subject to the Statutory Regulations relating to the National Savings Stock Register. The principal of, and interest on, bonds are a charge on the National Loans Fund.

PURCHASE
2.1 Subject to a minimum purchase of £500 (see paragraph 3.1) a purchase may be made in multiples of £50. The date of purchase will for all purposes be the date payment is received with a completed application form, at the National Savings Deposit Bond Office, a Post Office transacting National Savings Bank business, or such other place as the Director of Savings may specify.

2.2 A certificate will be issued in respect of each purchase. This certificate will show the value of the bond and the date of purchase. This certificate will be replaced on each anniversary of the date of purchase, and on part repayment in accordance with paragraph 3.2 by a new certificate showing the updated value of the bond, including capitalised interest.

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM HOLDING LIMITS
3.1 No person may hold, either solely or jointly with any other person, less than £500 in any one bond or more than £50,000 in one or more bonds. The maximum holding limit will not prevent the capitalisation of interest under a bond to purchase another bond. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder and interest on such bonds will not count towards the maximum limit. Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum limit he may hold as trustee of a separate fund or which he or the beneficiary may hold in a personal capacity.

3.2 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits from time to time, upon giving notice, but such a variation will not prejudice any right enjoyed by a bond holder immediately before the variation in respect of a bond then held by him.

INTEREST
4.1 Interest will be calculated on a day to day basis from the date of purchase up to the date of repayment. Subject to paragraph 4.2 interest on a bond will be payable at a rate determined by the Treasury, which may be varied upon giving six weeks' notice.

4.2 The rate of interest on a bond or part of a bond repaid before the first anniversary of the date of purchase will be half the rate determined by the Treasury in accordance with paragraph 4.1, unless repayment is made on the death of the sole bond holder.

4.3 Interest on a bond will be capitalised on each anniversary of the date of purchase without deduction of income tax, but interest is subject to income tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue in respect of the year in which it is capitalised.

REPAYMENT
5.1 A holder must give three calendar months' notice of any application for repayment before redemption but no prior notice is required if application is made on the death of the sole bond holder. Any application for repayment of a bond must be made in writing to the National Savings Deposit Bond Office and be accompanied by the current investment certificate. The period of notice will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the National Savings Deposit Bond Office.

5.2 Application may be made in accordance with paragraph 5.1 for repayment of part of a bond, including capitalised interest, but the amount to be repaid must not be less than £50, or such other figure as the Treasury may determine from time to time upon giving notice. The balance of the bond remaining after repayment, excluding interest which has not been capitalised, must be not less than the minimum holding limit which was in force at the date of application. Where part of a bond has been repaid a new certificate will be issued and the remaining balance will be treated as having the same date of purchase as the original bond.

5.3 Payments will be made by crossed warrant sent by post. For the purpose of determining the amount payable in respect of a bond the date of repayment will be treated as the date on the warrant.

5.4 No payment will be made in respect of a bond held by a minor under the age of seven years, either solely or jointly with any other person, except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

TRANSFERS
6. Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. The Director of Savings will, for example, normally give consent in the case of devolution of bonds on the death of a holder but not to any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

NOTICE
7. The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 3.2, 4.1, 5.2 and 8 in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes or in any manner which they think fit. If notice is given otherwise than in the Gazettes, it will as soon as reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

GUARANTEED LIFE OF BONDS
8. Each bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the purchase date. Thereafter interest will continue to be payable in accordance with paragraphs 4.1 and 4.3 until the redemption of the bond. The bond may be redeemed either at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any date thereafter, in either case upon the giving of six months' notice by the Treasury. The Director of Savings will write to the holder before redemption, at his last recorded address, informing him of the date of redemption.

NATIONAL SAVINGS DEPOSIT BOND—Application to purchase

To the Deposit Bond Office, Dept. T6, National Savings, Glasgow G5 1SB

I/We accept the terms of the Prospectus and apply for a bond to the value of £

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Summery First names Mr/Ms/Miss

Address

Postcode

Date of Birth (if usual for correspondence will normally be sent to the named holder under 7 years old)

NAME AND ADDRESS TO WHICH DEPOSIT BOND SHOULD BE SENT (Complete only if different from first address above)

Name Address Postcode

Signature Date

Note: If the bond is to be held jointly all the names must appear above. Persons signing for children under 7 should state relationship here.

'Millionaire' claims she is about penniless

A businesswoman told a High Court judge yesterday that she was almost destitute — although she was also practically a millionaire.

Mrs Zofia Sas, aged 66, said that for two years, since she was "thrown out" of companies she had founded by her two sons, she had lived on her state pension. Her cash deposits in the SAS Group of Companies had been retained.

The security equipment and pharmaceutical company, SAS Administrative Services, of Vernon Place, Holborn, London, asked the court for an order requiring Mrs Sas, of Sussex Square, Westminster, to return items, including a 1976 Rolls-Royce, which she had kept after her directorship ceased in February 1982.

Mrs Sas has filed a counter-claim for £200,000 damages — just over two years' salary — for alleged wrongful dismissal, and other amounts totalling between £70,000 and £80,000.

She argued that she could retain the property as security for her counterclaim.

However, Mr Justice Nourse

said a company director had no general or particular right to keep company property against claims that might be made against it.

He ordered that, within seven days, Mrs Sas must hand over the Rolls-Royce, a £20,000 canteen of silver cutlery, an antique silver candelabra, ivory carvings, a Sevres candelabra and clock, a Victorian cigar box, napkin rings, and other clocks.

The judge awarded costs against Mrs Sas, who had earlier told him: "If I have to pay costs I will be destitute, yet I am practically a millionaire and made both my son millionaires."

She had a £100,000 bank overdraft and could be in danger of losing her home, he said.

Mr Michael Burton, counsel for SAS Administrative Services, had said Mrs Sas stopped being a director after a dispute with her sons, who remained on the board. Her allegations were denied, he said.

Pretoria seeks separate deal on Namibia to outflank the UN

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

South Africa, flushed with the success of its recent peace accords with Angola and Mozambique, has proposed what amounts to a regional conference in which all the parties involved in the conflict over Namibia would meet to resolve their differences.

Pretoria said it was ready to take part "without any conditions except the realization of peace". The time had come for southern African leaders to solve their problems among themselves and the conference should be held in an African country.

South Africa said the other participants should be the KPLA Government in Angola, the UNITA movement of Dr Jonas Savimbi, which is engaged in a civil war with Luanda, the multiparty conference group of political parties in Namibia and Swapo, which has been fighting for Namibia's independence since 1966.

Commentators here have been quick to present Pretoria's move, the latest in a bewildering series of diplomatic manoeuvres, as an attempt to shift the search for a Namibian settlement away from the United Nations and Security Council Resolution 435 to direct negotiations between the parties concerned.

It is certainly true that Pretoria has never liked the UN's role. Recently, Mr P. W. Botha, the Foreign Minister, said that any UN involvement invariably created problems.



Mr Sam Nujoma, Swapo's leader, who says he will accept Pretoria's offer if Angola is excluded.

rather than resolved them. The UN is regarded as being irretrievably biased in favour of Swapo.

Newspapers here, fairly evidently officially inspired, are suggesting that a ceasefire in Namibia, which is still occupied by South Africa, and elections to a independent constituent assembly could be policed and supervised by the countries of the region, rather than a UN peacekeeping force as envisaged in Resolution 435.

A regional conference of the kind proposed would have obvious advantages for Pretoria. Swapo would become only one of half a dozen Namibian representatives at the negotiating table, rather than the "sole authentic representative of the Namibian people" as it is recognized by the UN General Assembly (though not by the Security Council).

The South African-backed UNITA movement would also secure a place, with the implication that this would lead to an eventual accommodation between Dr Savimbi and the MPLA Government. That, in turn, would remove the *Raison d'être* for the presence of Cuban troops in Angola, which are a heavy drain on Luan's financial resources.

There can be little doubt that the United States, while it cannot afford to be seen publicly to be advocating abandonment of Resolution 435, has tacitly encouraged South Africa to make its latest offer. In any case, the proposed regional conference could be presented as a way of achieving the essential goals of 435 by other means.

The question is whether Pretoria is not simply asking too much of Swapo and its allies in the "frontline" states, for whom 435 has hitherto been holy writ. A month or two ago, a conference of the kind proposed would have been unthinkable. But attitudes in the region have changed so much that it can no longer be ruled out.



War victim: Mohammad Reza Asadi, a 20-year-old Iranian soldier, recovering in an Uppsala hospital in Sweden from burns which Iran claims were caused by Iraqi chemical weapons. A picture of Ayatollah Khomeini is taped to his pillow and he holds the Koran for comfort.

Cabinet undecided on pullout

Lebanon toll angers Israelis

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The unrelenting increase in the number of Israeli casualties in Lebanon continued yesterday with the death in hospital of Gadi Jackman, a 19-year-old army sergeant wounded in a series of ambushes in the port city of Sidon nine days ago.

He was one of 11 Israeli soldiers wounded when three explosions shook the port area of Sidon, the city which has become the centre of armed resistance to the Israeli occupation.

A Lebanese civilian was also killed in the attack, which prompted the Israeli Army to shut the harbour facilities temporarily, further increasing resentment among the local

Muslim majority which is becoming more politicized in its opposition.

Sergeant Jackman's death brought to 574 the number of Israelis killed in Lebanon since the invasion on June 6, 1982, with official army estimates showing that a further 3,285 have been injured.

It came as the Cabinet remained undecided about the extent of the secondary troop withdrawal planned in response to the cancellation of the Israel-Lebanon pact by the Government of President Amin Gemayel.

The main purpose of the planned retreat to a new front line south of the present

defensive positions along the Awali River is to try to reduce the casualty toll which is causing growing resentment among the Israeli public and hitting the ruling Likud coalition badly in the opinion polls.

But Israeli political sources said some ministers have put forward the view that the expected further pullback might have the opposite result of increasing the number of army casualties in Lebanon.

No final Israeli decision on the next move is expected for several weeks, with most ministers determined to await the outcome of the Lausanne conference.

Jordanian women vote for first time

Amman (AFP) - Half a million Jordanians were going to the polls yesterday for the first time in 17 years to elect members to eight vacant seats in the recently-reconstituted Parliament. Voting was in a calmer atmosphere, a source close to the Interior Ministry said.

For the first time in Jordan's history voting was open to women, as many women as men flocked to the polling stations it was said.

Although there are no booths in the stations, voting was observed by three government officials who checked identity cards. There were different voting boxes for men and women.

Voters usually went over to a corner of the room to fill in the name of the candidate.

After 17 years without elections, some voters clearly lacked experience. One elderly man walked up to the ballot box holding up a newspaper in which he pointed out a photograph of the candidate he had chosen. "I want to vote for that one," he said.

Another voter, unable to read or write, was asked by an election officer to say the name of his chosen candidate out loud, after which it was written for him on the ballot paper.

Many women voters expressed pride over being consulted for the first time on political issues. Some said they had voted like the rest of the family, but others were at pains to emphasize that they had made up their own minds.

The elections are the result of a constitutional amendment adopted by Parliament on January 9, when it was convened by King Hussein for the first time since 1974.

US accused of spurning Cuba offer

From Martha Honey
San José, Costa Rica

A prominent Costa Rican physician and former Minister of Information, who has been acting as an intermediary between Cuba and the United States, says Havana is anxious to open peace talks but the Reagan Administration is not interested.

Dr Luis Bursin says that in the past two years he has held lengthy discussions with top Cuban officials, including Señor Manuel Pinero and Señor José Arce, who handle US-Cuban affairs. Dr Bursin relayed their proposals to American officials such as Mr Alfonso Sapia-Bosch, a former National Security Council specialist now with the CIA, an unnamed close associate of President Reagan, State Department representatives and, most recently, Dr Henry Kissinger.

In interviews here and in an article in *The New Republic* Dr Bursin detailed how in January, 1982, and December, 1983, he delivered written proposals for normalizing relations and ending the conflicts in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

But White House officials, after initially encouraging him to act as a go-between, took no interest because, they said, they contained "nothing new".

Dr Bursin says that the main problem has been over whether to start the negotiating process with bilateral or regional issues. Cuba wants, as the first step, to normalize diplomatic and economic relations, while the Reagan Administration is demanding that Cuba stops "exporting revolution".

He believes that he was selected for the job of courier because, as a one-time member of Costa Rica's Communist Party and an active Zionist, he understands the Central American left and has high-level contacts in Washington and Israel.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Stockholm - What will be the lasting effects on Sweden of the Soviet submarine crisis? In one sense, it might be argued it should not make much difference whether a submarine is now caught around Karlskrona or not. There is already sufficient evidence that the Soviet Union has not been shamed into stopping its violations of Swedish territorial waters, either by the fiasco of its stranded submarine in 1981, or by the findings of the official Swedish commission which last year tabulated the numerous infringements. What is missing now is not so much knowledge, as absolute proof.

But if this proof is found, the impact on the Swedish public will be profound. The present mood of anxiety and bewilderment would harden into anger. This public reaction, combined with a proper regard for the national interest, would force the Government to take a much tougher line towards the Soviet Union than it has yet done. So far it has taken the reasonable attitude for a Government of declining to act on anything less than proof, after the earlier violations, it suspended ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union. Indeed, it is preparing to invite the Soviet Minister of Agriculture to Stockholm - a move which has attracted some criticism in Sweden because it may send the wrong signal to Moscow.

Diplomacy does not help West

In proof of a submarine is found, however, there will certainly be a strong verbal response from the Swedish government. It can be expected to cite chapter and verse how it has been misled by the Soviet Union. Some Swedes would want to go further, and send the Soviet ambassador home, perhaps also referring the issue to the United Nations. But I do not think that either of those steps would be taken.

There is not the slightest chance of Sweden joining Nato, submarine or no submarine. The tradition of neutrality is too deeply embedded in the national character. But the nature of its neutrality might change if a submarine were found. There would be a greater readiness to criticize the Soviet Union on other matters as well. Sweden is a country whose sympathies and way of life are entirely pro-Western, but its diplomacy at the moment is not always helpful to the West. At the Stockholm security conference, the Swedes are regarded as probably the least inclined towards the West of the major neutrals.

But as the days go by, with nothing to show for the search, the fears are rising that nothing will be found after all. That would certainly be embarrassing for the navy, but there is confidence that if Soviet submarines continue to enter Swedish waters, it will be possible to catch an intruder somewhere, some time. Much more sophisticated equipment will be available to the navy by the end of next year, though the problems of policing a difficult coastline of 1250 miles are immense.

Derision would be a mistake

The political risks for the Soviet Union are also being increased. The more it maintains that it has no submarines in Swedish waters - as its representatives are continuing to insist emphatically - the more politically exposed it will be if any are found there. So there is the hope that, whatever the outcome now at Karlskrona, the furor will persuade the Soviet Union that the political stakes are too high to continue.

But that hope proved unavailing after earlier protests, and Sweden cannot afford today to put its trust in illusions. Swedish opinion will probably remain robust even if the navy fails now, but there is always the risk that a sense of helplessness might develop, a feeling that Sweden would just have to accept these intrusions as the way of the world. That would be very damaging for the strength and integrity of Swedish neutrality.

There would also be a temptation for other countries friendly to Sweden to look upon the whole episode with some derision. That would equally be a mistake. Whether any of the submarines entering their waters can be caught is a measure of the technical competence of the Swedish navy, and the salubrity of its equipment. But Soviet submarine activity in the Baltic is no laughing matter.

Glemp returns to face two challenges

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw

Poland's Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, returned home yesterday after a three-week visit to Brazil and Argentina to find himself embroiled in continuing disputes over his decision to transfer a pro-solidarity priest and the Communist regime's insistence on the removal of crosses from public buildings.

The Cardinal and his aides hurried past reporters at Warsaw airport without commenting on the protests which have sprung up during his absence. He is also likely to face questioning from Solidarity supporters about remarks attributed to him by a Brazilian newspaper that Solidarity had ceased to represent Polish workers' interests and its leader, Mr Lech Walesa, had lost control of the union movement.

At St Joseph's church in the Warsaw working class suburb of Ursus, seven parishioners - four men and three women - began a new hunger strike on Sunday in anticipation of the

primate's return. They have said they will take only water and Holy Communion until they receive a reply to a letter delivered on Friday urging the Cardinal to reverse his decision to transfer Father Mieczyslaw Nowak, to a remote rural parish in Leki Koscielne, about 65 miles from Warsaw.

Solidarity activists consider the removal of Father Nowak as a big concession to the Communist authorities who have complained about his anti-regime sermons and those of other outspoken radical priests.

Cardinal Glemp is under even stronger pressure to throw his support behind high school students in the eastern town of Garwolin who are protesting against the removal of crucifixes from their classrooms. Archbishop Bronislaw Dabrowski, secretary of the Polish Bishops' conference, said that talks with Government officials were continuing.

Classes remained suspended yesterday at an agricultural training school near Garwolin.

Ruling party wins poll in Colombia

Bogotá (AP) - Colombia's ruling Conservative Party won a surprising 42 per cent of the votes in municipal elections throughout the country.

With 70 per cent of the votes counted yesterday the opposition Liberals has 58 per cent, but as they were divided between the two rival leaders the Conservatives came out as the dominant party.

The turnout appeared to be the worst on record, however, with only 30 per cent of registered voters casting ballots.

French left lose local elections

Paris (AP) - Right-wing opposition candidates won in five of six local elections over the weekend, according to official figures released yesterday.

In Cantonal elections in Vincennes-Fontaine, the left-wing ticket received less than 6 per cent of the vote while the extreme right-wing National Front won 10 per cent.

Minister cleared



Dr Zakary Onyoka, Kenya's Minister for Planning and Economic Development until last September's General election who was acquitted yesterday of murdering a supporter of an opposing candidate in the final stages of the election campaign in Kisumu, western Kenya.

Vietnam visitor

Canberra (AP) - Extra security precautions have been taken to counter protests expected from Australia's 70,000 Vietnamese residents during the visit of the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, which begins tomorrow.

Punjab protest

Chandigarh (AFP) - Thousands of Punjabi farmers laid siege to the state capital here, to press demands for lower local taxes and higher wheat prices. About 3,600 police were deployed to protect the Governor's residence.

Record prize

Braintree, Massachusetts (AP) - Seven people are to share an \$18.2m (£12.5m) Massachusetts state lottery prize, the largest in American history.

Three flee

Hanover (AP) - An East German border guard scaled a fence and two bricklayers fled across a heavily-mined section of the frontier to escape to the West.

Turkish trial

Ankara (AFP) - Five people were sentenced to prison terms of 10 to 24 years for selling ammunition to Turkish police officers posing as Armenians.

Kissinger criticized by Luns

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Dr Henry Kissinger's recent proposals for "Europeanizing" Nato were sharply criticized by Dr Joseph Luns, outgoing secretary general of the alliance in London yesterday.

He liked and admired the former US Secretary of State, he told the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House). But his proposals, spelt out in a *Time* article, were "no good" and to halve the number of American troops in Europe as Dr Kissinger suggested, would have a greatly demoralizing effect.

Earlier Dr Luns, who retires in June to make way for Lord Carrington after more than 12 years, rounded upon "eminent public figures" who did Nato a great disservice with their "carping criticism". It was not a radical restructuring that Nato needed, but better use of the existing structure.

All too often the image painted of Nato was one of discord rather than harmony, he said. Whether in the field of nuclear strategy, defence procurement, reactions to events outside the alliance or to Soviet moves in Afghanistan and Poland, the public could be forgiven if its impression was one of an alliance lacking the necessary unity.

"It is of course too much to expect that the differences of perception which naturally exist, for example between the US and Western Europe can be totally eliminated," Dr Luns said.

The Secretary General said that what Nato needed was a coherent long-term policy for coping with the Soviet Union.

Salvador guerrillas recruit by force

From John Carlin, San Esteban Catarina, El Salvador

The Archbishop of San Salvador offered an open air Mass in his native village on Sunday to pray for the safe return of 38 youths forcefully recruited last week by guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

Prompted by the guerrilla action, Archbishop Rivera y Damas had said earlier in the day that the FMLN does not have sufficient popular support to defeat the American-backed government forces in the four-year-old civil war here.

"This support is denied," said the Archbishop in his homily at San Salvador Cathedral, "because of destruction and violent methods against the people who continue suffering in every way."

A few hours after Mass at the Cathedral, the Archbishop travelled 36 miles east of San Salvador to the village where he was born, San Esteban Catarina. There he celebrated an open air Mass in the shade of a tree in the village square. The front row seats were occupied by the veiled mothers of the 38 kidnapped youths, who have not been heard of since the FMLN took them away.

UK to reopen missions

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain is reopening its diplomatic missions in El Salvador and Nicaragua after a lapse of four and eight years respectively, the Foreign Office announced last night.

A charge d'affaires will be appointed in both countries within the next two or three months. But the ambassadors in Costa Rica and Honduras will continue to be in overall charge respectively of Nicaragua and El Salvador, according to sources.

The mission in Nicaragua was closed in 1976 for reasons of economy while the one in El Salvador was withdrawn four years later as a result of the deteriorating security situation.

But the Commons foreign affairs committee recommended over a year ago that they should be reopened.

Nicaragua's right wing quits debate

From Alan Tomlinson
Managua

Right-wing opposition parties in Nicaragua have withdrawn from the debate in the Council of State on a new electoral law, accusing the majority party, the ruling Sandinista Front, of ignoring their arguments for amendments and framing the election rules to suit its own ends.

The main opposition party, the Democratic Conservatives, and a number of smaller parties which make up the opposition umbrella group known as the Democratic Coordinating Committee, walked out of the council chamber.

Their representatives demanded that the election of a constituent assembly and the framing of a constitution should take place before the election of a President, who would otherwise have unrestricted powers. Elections for both an assembly and an executive are scheduled for November 4.



Free at last: Mr Shigeyoshi Taniguchi, aged 53, a death row inmate for 34 years, showing his delight after the district court in Takamatsu, western Japan, acquitted him on a retrial of killing a rice dealer, for which he had been sentenced to death.



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Now the world-famous DAKS Housecheck, and the loden green and navy blue DAKS tartans, have been introduced into a beautifully tailored range of classic British rainwear. It's the latest addition to the largest DAKS collection in the world, at Simpson Piccadilly.

His Trenchcoat, 36" - 48", regular, short and long; hers, sizes 8 - 18, both at £159. Matching men's or women's rainhats, small, medium and large, £13.50. Man's umbrella £35, woman's umbrella £29.

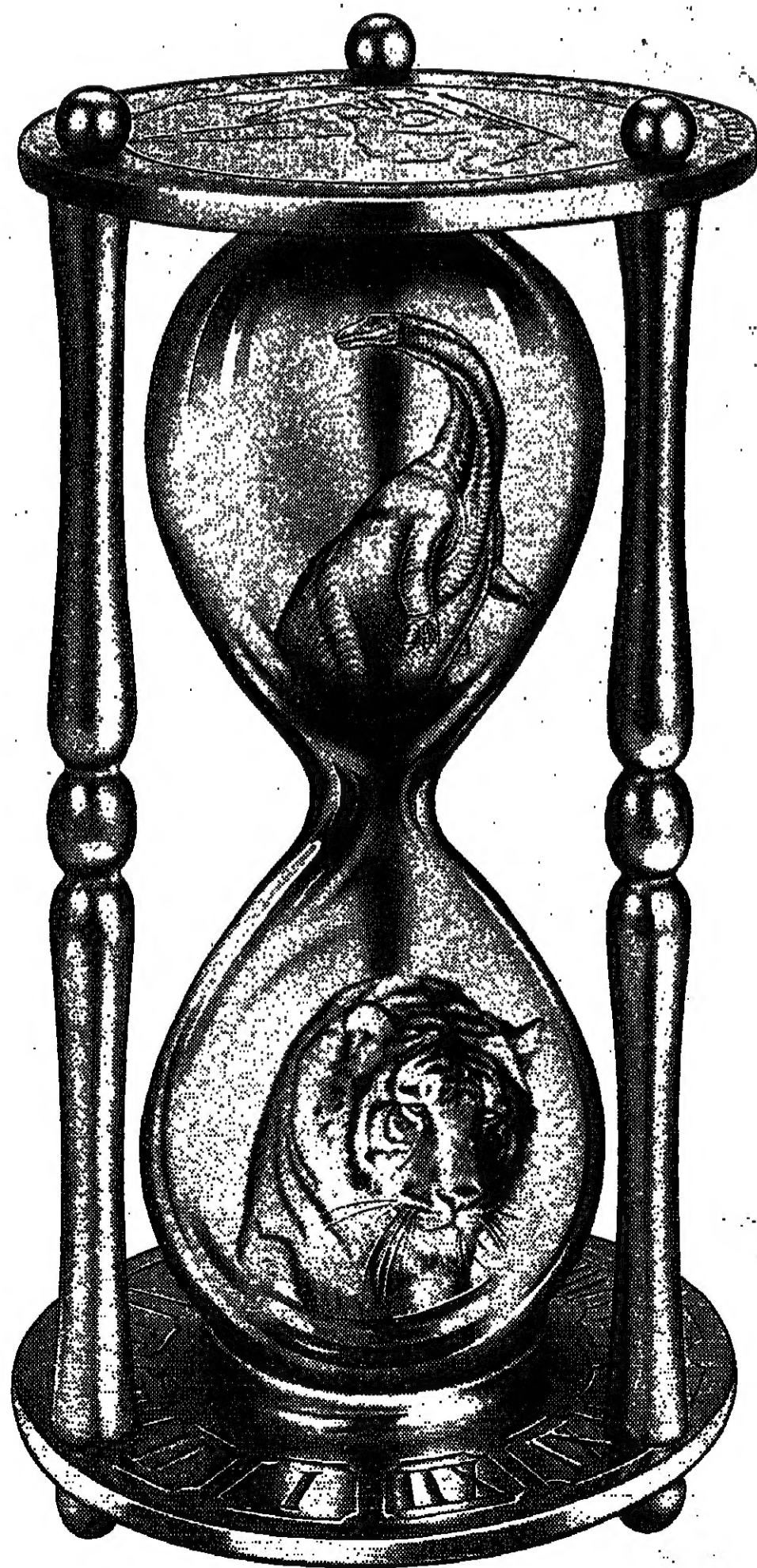
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Commentary
Geoffrey Smith



A CAT'S EYE VIEW OF EVOLUTION



140 million years ago oil began to form in the rock beneath the North Sea.

Nothing much happened for a while.

Then 19 years ago we and our partners drilled our first well, and a year and several wells later discovered natural gas.

Discovery of natural gas was followed by discovery of oil.

And suddenly there we were on the threshold of a store of high quality energy that had been locked away for 140 million years.

But as one exploration success led to another, development and production has meant more and more investment.

So far Esso have made a massive North Sea investment commitment of £4,500 million.

We are spending at the rate of £500 million a year with British companies, thereby helping them prosper and grow through new technologies which have worldwide export potential.

We are investing £410 million as Esso's share in a dual site petrochemical complex in Scotland, currently one of the biggest construction projects in Europe, to produce the more valuable up-graded oil and gas related products industry needs.

We provide 20% of all the petroleum products Britain uses to keep the economy moving.

And what may have started in the age of the slow lumbering dinosaur all those millions of years ago has been turned into a mammoth boost for Britain by a lively, dynamic, forward-looking tiger.



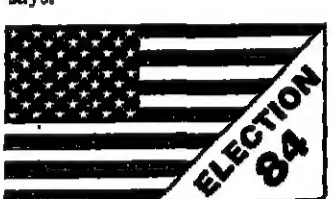
Bitter Mondale needs to take the pulse of America

From Christopher Thomas, Tampa, Florida

Mr Walter Mondale bawled his entourage through nine cities in three states in 14 hours yesterday. "Stuff the opinion polls," he said. He is irked. People do not hear him any more. They hear only the echo of Senator Gary Hart stomping through the South. Wherever Mr Mondale goes, it is the same: "Sir, the latest opinion poll says Mr Hart..."

The particular one he wanted stuffed was in the *Atlanta Herald*, and it put the maverick senator and the former Vice-President neck-and-neck in today's Florida primary.

In Alabama and Georgia, too, the Hart army is said to be marching over turf that Mr Mondale has been so carefully laying these past 18 months. Even the loyalty of the black vote - 20 per cent of the total in the three states - has been shaken by that fatherless oratorical wizard who wears chips on his shoulder like epaulettes. "Call me a bastard, call me a bastard," the Rev Jesse Jackson says.



Mr Mondale, casting an eye at Mr Hart's quill, says he will not change his image, he will not wear this new hairspray - such is the level of debate in the battle for Super Tuesday and its host of primaries and caucuses.

The real fight today is for the three Southern primaries, not so much because of the number of delegates they send to the Democratic National Convention - 239 out of 3,993 - but because they are the pulse of America.

More than New Hampshire, Iowa, Maine or Vermont, this is normal, everyday black and white, liberal and conservative America. Mr Mondale would have won all three if Mr Hart had stayed at home. People are

incredulous that a man who has not been in the South more than half a dozen times in three years should be heading such an invasion.

Mr Mondale must win two of the Southern states today - that would leave him wounded but walking. The man from Minnesota really cannot afford to do any worse.

The Super Tuesday primaries and caucuses, together with those already held, represent the battles for 749 of the convention delegates - 19 per cent of the total. Mr Mondale has yet to perform in his native Midwest so speculation that he might withdraw from the campaign if he does badly today isarrant nonsense.

The Michigan caucuses are not Saturday and the Illinois primary is on March 20 - states where the might and money of Mr Mondale's AFL-CIO friends will be brought to bear. If he does badly there, that is another story.

Mr Mondale is a changed, chastened man. When he was front-runner such an astonishingly short time ago, he tended to play catch-me-if-you-can with the television networks. Now, he returns their calls.

So does Mr Hart, the good-looking guy who fares best on the box. "Send a message to Washington," he says in that slightly iconoclastic air of his, "by refusing to accept the candidate of the Democratic bosses."

On board his chartered jet between campaign stops, Mr Mondale is jovial enough when the flashbulbs are popping, but the smile goes out with the lights. His gruelling schedule through Florida, Georgia and Alabama yesterday was the roughest yet - a last-ditch attempt to repulse the man of whom he said: "Where's the beef?"

Mr Mondale will be in front of the television set in Washington tonight with not one of those hated opinion polls in sight, only judgments. "This," he said, "has become a battle for the soul of the Democratic Party."



Himalayan protest: Tibetan women marching in Delhi against China's occupation of their homeland for the past 25 years.

Testing time in an ornery state

From Trevor Fishlock, Boston

"Hart for President" was how the chirpy young man answered the telephone. "Sure, come on over. You'll find us running around like headless chickens."

They were, too. The polls predict victory for Senator Gary Hart in the Massachusetts primary today - another wounding blow for Mr Walter Mondale - and the Hart campaign workers were bounding up and down the rickety stairs of the old terraced house newly pressed into service as field headquarters.

They were in jeans and sweaters, bursting with youthful enthusiasm and excitement. It was like being backstage on the opening night of a big production. They have to pinch themselves to believe what has happened. Two weeks ago they had hardly two cents to rub together and could not pay the phone bill. Now the phone is re-connected and never stops ringing.

Gary Hart will be a president with no strings attached," Mr Jack Weir, aged 26, the state campaign boss, said. "He has invited new people into the political process."

Over at Mondale headquarters, the phone was answered with one word: "Mondale." The staff were young, but they did not have that same air of exuberance. Their smiles were brave.

"It has all happened so suddenly," Mr Ed Pliner, the campaign chief, said. "If we had more time we could stop Hart's momentum. He is an overnight media star trying to be all things to everybody. But people are beginning to question his ideas. We think Massachusetts is volatile and we haven't written it off yet."

A recent poll in the *Boston Globe* gave Senator Hart a 46 per cent to 27 per cent lead over Mr Mondale. Surveys show his popularity with women is strong and increasing. Apart from anything else, Mr Hart plainly has sex appeal and there is an element of Trudeaumania in his amazing advance.

Only a fortnight ago this primary was being looked forward to by Mr Mondale as a comfortable win and a necessary one for his credibility, considering that Massachusetts is, arguably, the most liberal or progressive of states and has high political con-

sciousness and strong union organizations.

But Massachusetts is also paradoxical and independent - ornery, as Americans say. It went for Mr Reagan in 1980 and was Mr George McGovern's only state in 1972. Mr McGovern is campaigning here now, saying he will quit the race if he does not come first or second.

One reason why Massachusetts looked good for Mr Mondale was that the American equivalent of the TUC was backing him, with funds and organization, and was supposedly able to deliver the blue-collar vote.

But union members are making their own decision. In the New England states of New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont, many of them added their weight to the Hart wave, leaving the union leadership badly shaken.

The labour federation knows that of all today's primaries, Massachusetts is a key test for its ability to deliver. It has telephoned 118,000 of its 400,000 members in the state. But a poll shows union members favouring Mr Hart by 43 per cent to 29 per cent.

Greece will fight on for marbles

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece will appeal to Unesco if Britain, as is certain, turns down its formal request for the return of the Elgin collection of sculptures from the Acropolis now in the British Museum.

This was disclosed by Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, during a television interview on Channel 4 News on Sunday.

He added: "There is a procedure after that. (The issue) goes to Unesco and within 12 months the (British) Government has to answer."

He was referring to a Unesco procedure, apparently never invoked before, by which Greece would state its claim for the restitution of the antiquities, and Britain would be required to present its defence in writing within 12 months. After this compulsory arbitration could be sought.

Unesco's Ministers of Culture meeting in Mexico in 1982 approved by 56 to 11, with 26 abstentions, a resolution supporting the return of the Elgin Marbles to Greece.

Prisoners of conscience



Taiwan:

Hsu Ching-Fu

By Caroline Moorehead

Hsu Ching-fu was the manager of a film company and two cinemas in Kaohsiung when he was arrested in January, 1980, and charged with harbouring a seditious person.

At his trial in May he admitted that he had hidden in his flat Mr Shih Ming-teh, general manager of the opposition political magazine *Formosa*, who was wanted by the authorities. Mr Hsu told the court that the two families had been close friends for more than 25 years.

None the less, the Military Court in Taipei Garrison Command in Taipei sentenced him to seven years in prison and five years deprivation of civil rights. All his property, except that needed to keep his wife and two children, was confiscated.

Until recently Mr Hsu had been in Taipei military prison, but he has now been moved to the less harsh Jenai Experimental Institute.

Justifying his severe sentence, the court argued that it had taken into consideration his plea of friendship and, admitting that it could "be sympathized with" had reduced the prison term from a far longer one.



Mr Hsu: Sentenced for hiding old friend

100-mile trek to escape hunger

From Stephen Taylor, North-Eastern Zimbabwe

They buried another child here last week, a boy aged five, who survived a trek of more than 100 miles through drought-devastated bush only to die at this rough mission sanctuary. Regret was fairly perfunctory. That only one of the 400 Mozambican refugees squatting here had died made it a good week.

The Jesuit Marymount Mission is a microcosm of eastern Zimbabwe, where diminishing food resources and elementary health facilities are being strained beyond breaking point by a population which is swelling dangerously.

The pressure comes from Mozambicans fleeing the drought which has killed between 40,000 and 200,000 people - the estimates are so varied because of the inaccessibility of the worst affected areas - in the past six months. Just how many have survived the arduous journey to the Zimbabwe frontier is another educated guess, but informed sources believe about 100,000 have crossed into Manicaland Province since August while another 50,000 are estimated in Mashonaland.

This is just the tip of the iceberg, according to one official. "From what these people say there are many thousands more on their way. There is nothing left where they come from - no shops, no food and no help," he said.

For the refugees Zimbabwe is a land of plenty. Local peasants speak with awe of the Mozambicans' ability to survive on leaves and roots. Government drought relief aid for its own people is being shared with extraordinary generosity with the refugees.

But relief allocations have not been increased and in some areas have virtually ceased. The burden of feeding the refugees is falling on local people, farmers and, to a lesser extent, voluntary agencies. There is confusion over what the Government intends to do with the refugees.

Because of the drought Zimbabwe is facing an enormous food deficit for the indigenous population. On present calculations, even with pledges of aid by Britain and the United States, this year's harvest will run out in November - five months before the next crop starts coming in. When rivers at present flooded in Mozambique subside the exodus of emaciated peasants will resume. The prognosis is catastrophic.

The refugees have harrowing tales of their journey, of women weakened by hunger having strength to carry only one child and having to choose which to leave behind, of villages along the way where everyone was dead.

One of the old ceasefire assembly points from the guerrilla war has been turned into a camp which is filled to capacity with about 24,000. This is the only official settlement created so far.

'Peoples courts' threat to Maltese judges

From Austin Sammut, Valletta

Malta's judiciary has been threatened by the senior Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Carmelo Misdud Bonnici, who suggested that "people's courts" be set up. Addressing government supporters on Sunday, he said

that unless judges and magistrates had the courage to resist and overcome what were described as Nationalist Party (the opposition) threats and intimidation, the Government would turn to the people and inform them that the time has come to set up people's courts.

Dr Misdud Bonnici was referring to a libel action brought against him by Nationalist officials, whom he accused of organizing violence. During a hearing last week, the officials protested when the magistrate adjourned the case for a long period. They claimed

the case was urgent. The Deputy Prime Minister has also criticized two other magistrates, for banning publication of evidence. One case concerned the discovery of an arms cache and the other involved damage to property belonging to a minister.

South African police kill two in gun battle

From Our Own Correspondents Johannesburg

Two policemen were seriously wounded and two other men shot dead late on Sunday night and early yesterday in running gun battles between the police and what were described as heavily armed "terrorists".

The term "terrorists" is used by the South African police for guerrillas of the underground African National Congress, which adopted a policy of armed struggle against the white minority regime more than 20 years ago.

The gun battle was preceded a day earlier by the blowing up of petrol storage tanks belonging to the Mobil Oil Company at Ermelo, a town in Eastern Transvaal. The sabotage is presumed to have been the work of the ANC.

The flurry of guerrilla activity, after a period of relative quiet is seen as an attempt by the ANC to advertise that it is still very much in business, despite the possible closure of its guerrilla sanctuaries in neighbouring countries.

Conference may boost African power project

Cape Town (AP) - Portugal, Mozambique and South Africa held talks yesterday to revive Africa's biggest hydro-electric project, the Cahora Bassa dam in Mozambique.

Cahora Bassa on the Zambezi river is a lynchpin in the latest steps towards peace between South Africa and Mozambique.

The South Africans need the power to help run the continent's only industrially based economy. Portugal, which owns some 81 per cent of the project, wants a return on its investment.

Arrest this Bill

THE GLC believes that the Police Bill will drive a new wedge between Londoners and their police force. The Bill is now before parliament. It must be stopped for the very good reason that it will not improve the policing of London.

We are committed to fighting crime in London. And to improving the service given to Londoners by their police force. But the Bill will not help these aims.

Worse, that it will cause more friction and create a wider rift between the Metropolitan Police and the people it serves.

For the Bill gives the police additional powers to use in certain circumstances. Powers to stop, search and detain which could be open to abuse.

We consider that the additional powers sought in the Police Bill are unnecessary. More important, we believe they will not help the police in their vital job of fighting crime in London. For the extra powers will almost certainly lead to increased conflict between Londoners and their police force.

The Police Bill must be opposed. It must not become law. Please, if you are concerned, write to your MP at the House of Commons, and send the coupon to us to get more information.

OPPOSE THE POLICE BILL

For the information pack on the Bill, please return the coupon or ring the GLC Campaign Hotline: 633-4400.

To: The Police Committee Support Unit
Room 602, County Hall, London SE1 7PB

I wish to tell friends and neighbours what the Bill means. Please send me the information pack on the Police Bill.

Name _____
Address _____

For further details ring the Unit on 633-5344

keep GLC Working for London

Spear of the Nation still has a cutting edge

Homeland despair offers rebels hope

In the second of two articles on the African National Congress (ANC), Michael Hornsby, Southern Africa ANC Part 2 Correspondent, looks at the prospects for the black nationalist movement if, as seems likely, its operations from countries bordering South Africa are successfully curtailed.

In the two decades or more since the ANC's guerrilla wing, Umkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) was founded, it has not succeeded in developing a capacity to do much more than infiltrate tiny bands of saboteurs across South Africa's borders on often suicidal hit-and-run missions.

Nearly a quarter of a century has passed since the ANC, after 50 years of ineffectual non-violent protest, was banned and driven underground in the stifling of repression which followed the 1960 Sharpeville shootings.

The present phase of the guerrilla war began in 1976 and by last year guerrilla attacks were occurring about once a week on average, the great majority, it is believed, launched from Mozambique. The have continued this year but at a slower rate.

Recruitment of guerrillas has had to be kept on a small scale because of the number of police spies finding their way into ANC ranks. Would-be guerrillas are mostly taken to "safe houses" in Mozambique and then sent to Tanzania for political education. Later they are moved to camps scattered across the north Angolan bush for up to two years of guerrilla training.

Pretoria puts the number of South African guerrillas under arms or in training abroad at between 1,500 and 2,000, of whom 300 or so are deployed in "forward areas" in neighbouring countries. It says that perhaps no more than 10 to 20 are operating in the Republic itself at any one time. Other



Mr Pik Botha and President Machel of Mozambique at last month's Maputo meeting.

sources put the total figure at 5,000 to 8,000, but do not dispute the ANC's limited internal presence.

The ANC seems likely to come under great pressure, especially from its impatient younger men, to show that it is not as dependent on its foreign bases as these figures suggest, perhaps by staging more incidents like last May's Pretoria car bomb, which killed 19 people and wounded more than 200.

The ANC might also try to set up bases in the scatter of tribal homelands which stretch from the northern parts of the Cape Province, round the western, northern and eastern borders of the Transvaal, and

far down along the eastern seaboard.

There is no denying the insurgency potential of these black-controlled refugees, packed with the reserve armies of dispossessed and unemployed blacks on whom Pretoria relies to blunt the nascent bargaining power of black trade unions. They could pose the most serious long-term military threat to the regime.

The United Democratic Front (UDF), a loose coalition of more than 400 anti-apartheid groups of all races formed last year to fight the Government's new constitution for whites, Coloureds and Indians, resembles the ANC-led Congress Alliance of the 1950s.

1912: ANC founded as South African Native National Congress.
1952: "Defiance campaign" - non-violent civil disobedience - against apartheid laws.
1955-61: Treason trial. ANC leaders acquitted. Freedom Charter.
1959: Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) forms breakaway group.
1960: Sharpeville massacre.

ANC and PAC banned and go underground.
1961: ANC turns to limited guerrilla warfare.
1964: Rivonia Trial. Nelson Mandela and others sentenced to life terms. ANC starts to establish itself in exile under Oliver Tambo.
1975: Independence of Angola and Mozambique gives ANC bases.
1976-77: Riots in Soweto and

Many UDF leaders are old ANC activists and its honorary patrons include the imprisoned Nelson Mandela, whose name radiates an almost talismanic power. Like the ANC, the UDF draws its ideological inspiration from the 1955 Freedom Charter, with its multiracial emphasis and socialist generalities.

Nor is the ANC's claim to black nationalist leadership unchallenged. The rival Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC), which once trained a squadron of pilots in Nigeria for an air force it never acquired, may have shrunk on the world scene, but its spirit lives on in the racially-exclusive black consciousness movement.

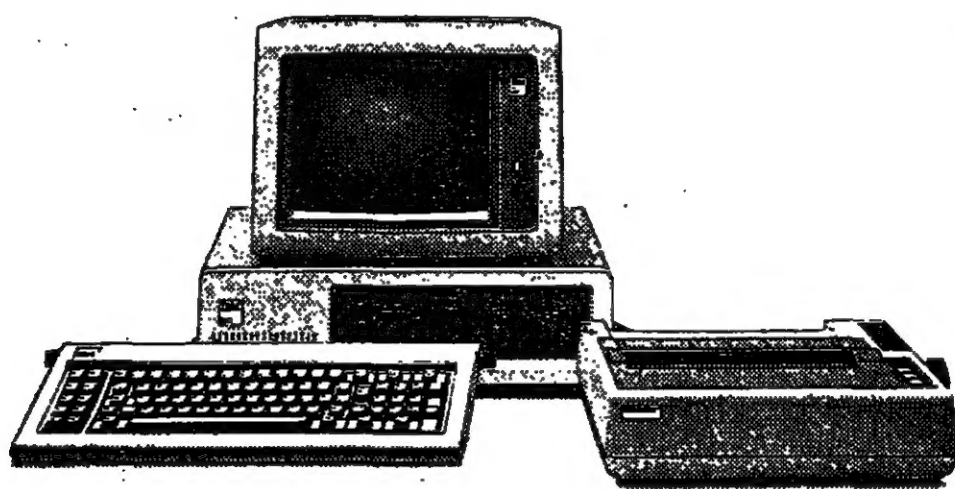
Azapo (Azanian People's Organisation), the main black consciousness body, operates from within the country. It has developed its own socialist critique of "racial capitalism" and views with suspicion the influence on the ANC of whites and Indians in the Communist Party.

It would be a great mistake to accept too readily the glib assumption in Pretoria that, once deprived of its external footholds, the ANC will simply wither on the vine. Founded more than 70 years ago, decades before the first stirrings of nationalism in neighbouring countries, the ANC exerts a powerful hold on black minds

Concluded

مكتبة الأمل

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FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Fit for a princess

Two weeks before Prince William was born, I asked Terence Conran when he was going to make Mothercare's maternity dresses fit for a princess. This spring, after a long gestation, but nicely timed for the new royal birth, he summoned me to see a new collection.

Keeping things in the family way, Jasper Conran was asked to produce a range of dresses with a sense of modern design, in good fabrics and deliberately aimed at the growing number of career women who want a crisp covering for The Bump.

"I am not trying to be clever. I am trying to fill a need and to treat pregnant people as normal fashion-conscious women," says Jasper of the tucked and pleated dresses in plain cotton, discreet Liberty prints or simple spots and stripes. All are generously cut, quite long (to mid-calf) and much more like the oversize dresses that mothers-to-be have been snapping up in regular shops.

The capsule collection of five styles (to be followed by a larger range in the autumn) is into 150 Mothercare stores a month from now. There will be a new collection of maternity wear in Marks & Spencer, too, says Conran's sense of design and instinct for what the public want to buy.

The dresses in the current Mothercare catalogue illustrate the designers' dilemma. They sell from just £9.99 for a cotton pinafore to £16.99 for candy-striped poly cotton. By that standard of making to a price, the Jasper Conran collection is expensive: prices start at £45. (For the autumn, prices are the same and items will be included in the catalogue.)

By the swing tickets of designer fashion, the prices are very acceptable. In fact, as Jasper says, he would like to be able to bring out his own-label range in this middle-market price bracket. He suspects that some permanently large women may be attracted to the maternity range. With a belt sashed stylishly at the hips, the dresses work as cool summer fashions.

Behind Terence Conran's thinking lies a lot of research and an understanding of changing patterns of motherhood. More women are having babies in their thirties, when they have money to spend and an established style. Many women are upgrading their clothes, looking for better quality and finish and natural fibres to make a working day more comfortable. Making do with



smocks and baggy dungarees not designed for the purpose will do little to help expectant mothers feel relaxed with their changing body shape.

I believe that clothes should reflect society. And it is a relief to see maternity clothes that do not present an outmoded image of the "feminine" woman engulfed in a full too-big.

Mother-to-be: Jasper Conran's crisp, collarless cotton dress with pleated front and three-quarter sleeves in white, navy and red. From 150 Mothercare stores from mid-April. Sailor beret £29.99 from Miss Selfridge. Anchor earrings by Teapieces £1.25 from Fenwick, New Bond Street. Red mesh scarf £2.95 from Harvey Nichols, SW1.

Hair by Peter at Daniel Galvin. Make-up by Ruth Sheldon for OPLANE using their Couleurs Surréalistes. Photographs by NICK BRIGGS

Cover-up between seasons

The coat dress is the fashion link between changing seasons. A strong feeling for clean lines, a streamlined silhouette and for one single piece of fabric associated separates, has brought the coat dress in for spring.

It takes over where the traditional suit dropped through the tulips. But whereas the suit tended to have a short life this winter and before the warm weather, the coat dress has been made more versatile.

At this time of the year it serves as a dress worn under a coat or jacket, or as a stand-alone piece.

A line that is not too tight and a weight that is not too heavy are the key to a successful coat dress. A skirt that is not too full and a collar that is not too high are also important.

There is a lot of choice in the way a coat dress can be made. It can be a simple, straight, knee-length dress, or it can be a more elaborate, long-sleeved, floor-length gown.

It can be made in a variety of fabrics, from cotton to silk, and it can be made in a variety of colors, from neutral to bright.

It can be made with a variety of details, such as a belt, a collar, or a pocket, and it can be made with a variety of textures, such as a smooth fabric or a textured fabric.

It can be made with a variety of lengths, from short to long, and it can be made with a variety of necklines, from high to low.

It can be made with a variety of sleeves, from long to short, and it can be made with a variety of collars, from high to low.

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Hongkong fashion

Designing women

Designing women are the key of the new-found fashion success of Hongkong. After years of being supplier to the world's clothing industry, Hongkong is producing designer names of its own. And it is the gentle, inscrutable oriental women who head the design teams.

Tomorrow night, the Duchess of Kent will officially open Harrods's "Window on Hongkong". The gala fashion show will also open the eyes of people who still think that Hongkong is simply a fashion workforce for the rest of the world.

Lily Chao's elegant, delicate couture-style silks with neat embroideries, and Kai-Yin Lo's stunning jewelry, mixing semi-precious stones are already known. But Harrods has come up with other designer names.

Hannah Pang uses leather like cloth, creating tough leather with punching, or quilting her soft sueded. Her collection of sueded in porcelain blue includes an apparently simple dress dramatically frayed with abstract circles and panels.

Her workmanship is seen also in the skirt which has a pleated skirt that gives fluid shapes.

John Lewis is a more traditional face of Hongkong. With her modulate and her own face is a mix of the old and the new.

She moved to the colony in 1974. Jenny's fascination with eastern influence came from her love of antique robes and textiles.

Now her own creations sell as collectors' items for the future.

Florence Tse studied art and design before winning a Young Design Award which put her label on the backs of glamorous customers. Her romantic eye for evening is mostly drawn to silk and satin, like the ivory satin evening separates with soft organza frills that she designed for Harrods under her Florencefreda label.

Judy Mann makes everyday clothes but with the accent on interesting fabrics, mostly natural fibres. She is one of the new breed of Hongkong women who combine marriage and a career, and she believes that clothes should work hard.

The recent success of Hongkong has been with designers (like Diane Freis and her easy dresses) who make for the busy modern woman. Hongkong is also behind international labels like the American designers Nipon and Calvin Klein.

French Connection, Fenn Wright and Manson, stalwart British companies like Alexon, Reldan and Planet, all owe part of their ranges to the manufacturing skills of Hongkong.

The giant Chinese lanterns and designer label swing tickets in Harrods for this promotional month, are only part of the fashion success story.

Spring clear: Roland Klein's wool gabardine double-breasted coat dress in silver grey, with lapel pin £189 from Roland Klein, 37 Brook Street W1, eveningwear and After Six, Harrods and Harvey Nichols.

Robby Carroll, Sarah Harrods, Strawsilk blouse by Maxfield Parish to order from Taylor and Hadow, Beauchamp Place SW3. Grey and cream two-tone straw doche by Bonnet £31.50 from The Hat Shop, 58 Neal Street WC2.

Steel earrings £8 from Michaels Fry, 41 South Molton Street W1.

BEAUTY REPORT



The colours of the sea in Molton Brown's spring make-up, with sand and pebble brown eyes, terracotta cheeks and lips. Zandra Rhodes' "Fables from the Sea" lace chignon and pearl beaded dress to order from 14s Grafton Street W1 or Harrods. Headband and jewels all by Adrian Mann. Gilded and painted treasure chest from antique department at Harrods. Make-up by Elenke and hair by Vicky for MOLTON BROWN.

The brilliant colours of contemporary art are the inspiration of Guerlain's Beaubourg collection, named after the high tech Centre Pompidou in Paris. Vivid reflections of the canvasses of Dufy or Matisse come out in the Hibiscus lipstick, the bright Blue Velour eye crayons and the subtle mixes of colour like Lagoon duo shadow in dark blue with green.

Orlane has the same sense of marvellous colour with Couleurs Surréalistes, also drawn from modern painting. "Naive Surréal" goes right through the range from a subtle and sophisticated eye and cheek colour to striking nail polish. Violet, fuchsia and cyclamen

pink are used with a pretty Veronese green and lavender eye pencil to make up the fine art face.

Art Deco and its tender colours is the theme for Ultima II. Deco peach and brighter coral, used with soft marble green, are strengthened by fiery red lipstick or cooled down still further with silver chrome shadow or a grey kohl pencil. The eyes - outlined in pencil - are everywhere the focus of the face.

Mary Quant calls her colours Artrol, which means painterly colours, and artistic combinations, including mauve or green mascara and an "abstract lilac" shadow. Handpainted silks have inspired Charles of the Ritz to rich, soft colours - Hyacinth Mauve, Ginger Glaze and Garden Rose.

The louche reputation of the

artist's studio has given Max Factor's Colorstax the theme of Not-So-Innocent Nudes. The colours seem to belie the words: Tender Rose, Sweet Peach and then a more wicked Pink Wink.

Illuminations to light up your face come from Helena Rubinstein, with their bright Rouge Feu and bridescent pink Aurora. For really strong colour there is Barry M's collection of futuristic fluorescent. The nail paint in a staggering 73 colours with six fluorescent costs £1.75 (from Hyper Hyper, Kensington High Street W8). Electric blue mascara is another eye-catching line.

Nature often knows best, and Estée Lauder's Colours from A Country by the Sea are the high fashion shades like Clearwater Pink, Coral Seas and Regatta Rose that seem like a breath of fresh air after the emphasis on art.

Make Mothers Day with Rosenthal Studio-Haus

A series of 12 Zodiac motifs created by Danish artist Bjorn Wilk and printed Quatre Couleurs in gold on a porcelain sculptured medallion, 2 inch diameter. A delightful Mothering Sunday gift available as a brooch or pendant with gold plated chain, each in presentation case. Brooches - £14.50 each. Pendants - £19.95 each. Includes £1.00 post and packing. Free delivery when ordering from the sole London distributors and remember to state which birthday you require.

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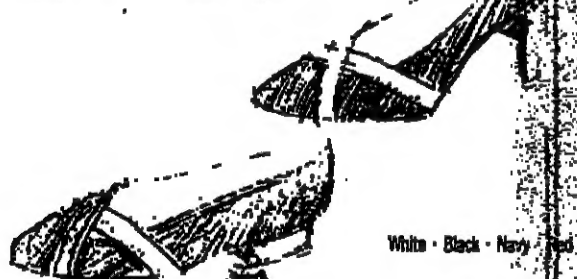
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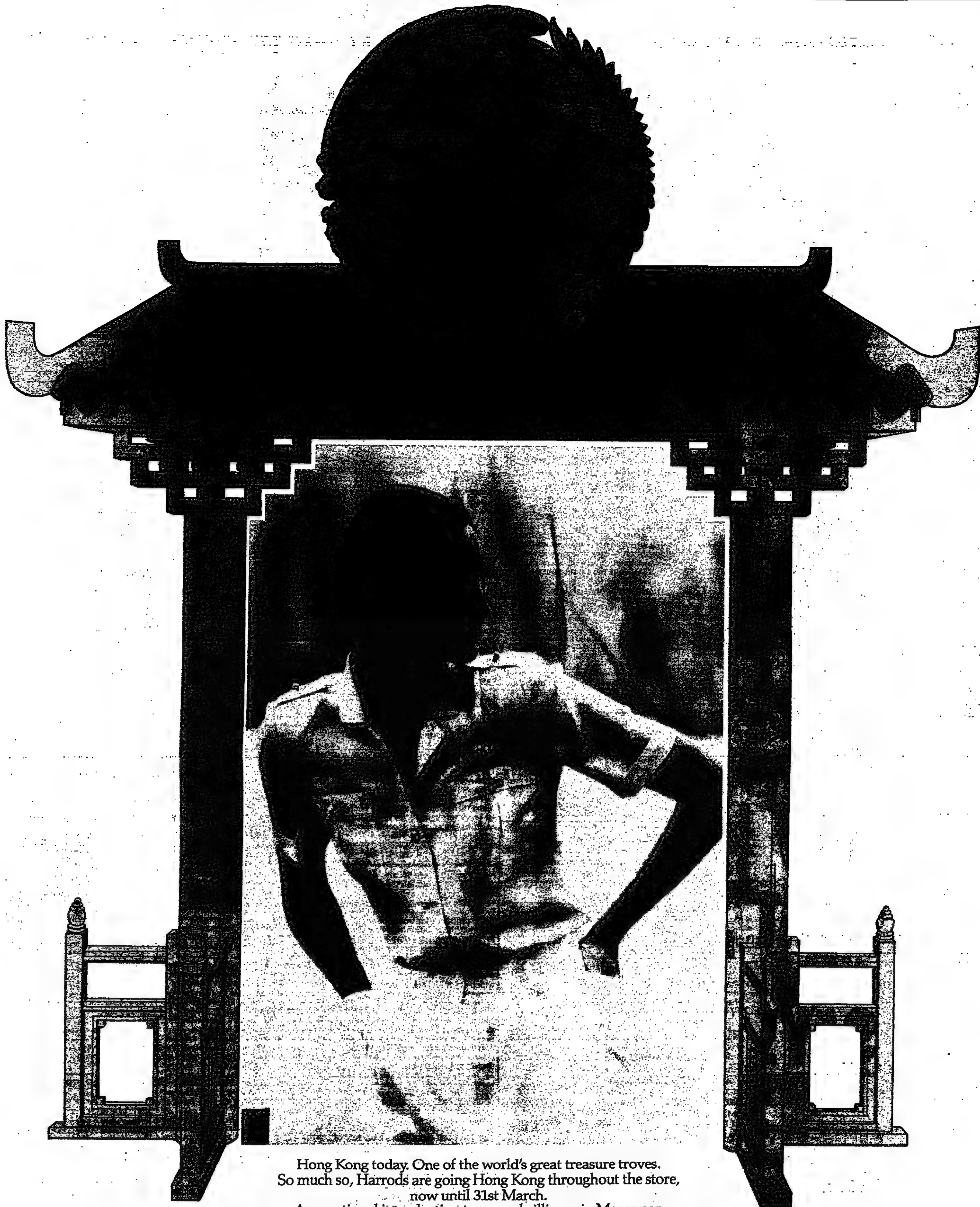
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SPECTRUM

Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor, gives her forecast

Marking the card

to chancellor this century has got through his Budget speech in under an hour. New chancellors like Mr Nigel Lawson start out with the intention of cutting the ritual down to size, but they end up wanting to exploit the broad-ranging opportunity and they have to peel out detail which they would otherwise be accused of hiding in technical press notices. This is a big budget, so Mr Lawson will be pushed to beat Sir Geoffrey Howe's shortest of twenty minutes. Here is a guide to the Chancellor's script with some tips for spotting the key changes. Chancellors normally start with...

Where in the world are we?

This is quite a pleasant topic for Mr Lawson. Britain has recently been catching up a higher growth rate than any other big European economy, not far behind the United States. Britain's inflation rate is below the international average. But it is still higher than in the US, Japan or West Germany. And a lot of which Mr Lawson may not be quite so keen to remind the House of Commons - Britain has a higher unemployment rate than any other major economy.

Mr Lawson's slim "red book" - the bible of the Budget - will also tell us where he thinks the world is going. His answer is, in a direction quite favourable to Britain.

Recovery in mainland Europe - led by West Germany - is expected to boost British exports, while our other big market, the US, is still expanding. This partly explains the optimism of the Treasury's answer to the Chancellor's big pre-Budget question:

Where is the economy going?

These are the nuggets of his new forecast. The benchmark is the Treasury's last forecast, published in November. That projected growth of 3 per cent this year, and inflation of 4½ per cent at the end of the year. Back in November, that sounded mighty optimistic, but inde-

pendent forecasters have been coming round to the Chancellor's cheerful point of view. He is unlikely to alter the inflation forecast, but could raise his output figure.

As his horizon rolls forward, listen for the new forecast for output and inflation in 1985.

The new strategy

Since the details of his complex new monetary strategy will not make compulsive listening, the Chancellor's political advisers will have tried to keep this passage as short and smooth as possible. Do not switch off. Those technical details about M0, M2, M3 and PSL2 can yield some vital bits of general information.

The benchmark for these new money targets is the series published by Sir Geoffrey Howe in the last Budget. These were for "broad money" - the growth in sterling M3:

1983-84 7 per cent-11 per cent
1984-85 6 per cent-10 per cent
1985-86 5 per cent-9 per cent

Keep your ears pricked for answers to the following four questions. First, how much further into the future does the new strategy extend? If, as expected, it runs five years ahead, remember that it is well past the next general election. Second, what inflation rate is Mr Lawson projecting for the final year? If the Chancellor is coy about this, wait for someone to do the sums out of the red book when he sits down. Third, how much room does his strategy leave for future tax cuts? You may have to wait for the red book for this information, where it appears under the guise of "negative fiscal adjustment". Fourth, how much tighter are his new targets? The trick here is that he proposes to introduce a parallel set for "narrow money", with lower numbers. What everyone in the City or, for that matter, with a mortgage of bank loan will need to know, is how these parallel targets will influence interest rate policy.

Getting and spending

A suitable place for the Chancellor to take a slight diversion. We are promised, along with the Budget, a "green paper" on public spending plans for the next decade. Mr Lawson is likely to pass as swiftly over this embarrassing subject as possible, because the green paper is going to be disappointingly short of information for the years beyond the framework of the new financial strategy.

The bottom line

Back in the Budget mainstream, the new financial strategy will contain one most important figure - the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) for 1984-85. This is the bottom line of the Budget - equal, roughly speaking, to the difference between spending and taxation. And the Chancellor says the Budget is going to be "broadly neutral" - which means he is going to claw back about as much tax as he gives away.

Even so, the PSBR is expected to be a good deal less than his last published projection of about £8,000m - and he may tilt his listeners by tossing the figure out early on, as Sir Geoffrey Howe once did. Because the economy is looking stronger, projections of tax revenue are likely to be higher, even without deliberate changes in tax.

Give and take

The best news in the Budget, for most taxpayers, is likely to be the changes he announces in personal income tax allowances - the basic figures that determine how much income different categories of people can receive before starting to pay tax.

All allowances are supposed to be raised in line with prices over the past calendar year, which is a rough way of preventing their real value from being

eroded by inflation. This means the following minimal changes in allowances:

Single allowance - up £100 to £1,885.
Married allowance - up £150 to £2,945.
Additional personal allowance or widow's bereavement allowance - up £50 to £1,060.
Single age allowance - up £130 to £2,490.
Married age allowance - up £240 to £3,995.

The Chancellor is widely expected to give more than this 5.3 per cent increase in thresholds. Only increases above these levels, however, amount to a real gain to the income taxpayer.

But the same logic applies to the Budget changes that always hit the headlines - in the tax on beer, spirits, wine, tobacco, petrol and vehicle excise duty (VED). Unless these are raised each year in line with inflation, their real value - and thus the Chancellor's real tax take - will fall. Correcting for 5.3 per cent inflation in this Budget would mean the following changes:

Beer - up 1p a pint
Wine - up 3p a bottle
Spirits - up 26p a bottle
20 cigarettes - up 3p a packet
Petrol - up 4p a gallon
Derv - up 4p a gallon
VED - up £5 a car

The Chancellor is not obliged to make these changes, and he is likely to be less even-handed, as the European court has ruled that Britain taxes beer 100% lighter than wine.

Whose benefits?

Social security benefits also need to be adjusted for inflation - and always used to be announced in the Budget, though they do not take effect until November. But last year the Government announced it would be waiting to see what the inflation rate actually was in May, when the computers have to start work on the changes, rather than trying to forecast what it would be in November. This year, inflation will probably be about 5½ per cent in May, which would mean the following changes in the main benefits:

● Retirement pension
Single - up £1.85 to £35.90
Married - up £3 to £57.50
● Unemployment benefit
Single - up £1.50 to £28.55
Married - up £2.40 to £46.15
Child benefit - up 35p to £6.85
● Supplementary benefit
Eg. for married householder - up £2.40 to £45.90

But the Chancellor will not announce precise figures unless he wants to sweeten the Budget with "real" increases. Just for example, a 50p increase in child benefit would be popular - and clearly above the rate of inflation.

Breaking new ground

Apart from these hardy annuals, Mr Lawson is expected to sow the seeds of some much more radical tax changes, designed broadly to even out the distortions in the tax system and encourage saving rather than spending. Since he has both to take and give to remain "neutral", there are very long lists of possibilities on both sides of the equation. Here are a few to watch for on the side of tax increases:

● VAT. The strongest candidate is an acceleration of VAT payments on imports. It is administratively difficult, but could yield the Chancellor about £1,800m next year.

There have also been rumours that the Chancellor is going to widen the scope of VAT (every Chancellor's dream). Likely targets to listen for - fast food, building alterations and even newspapers.

● Financial services. A general tax on consumer credit, rather than just another windfall tax on the banks. On top of that, however, the City fears the Inland Revenue may follow up its tax treatment of building societies by taxing other financial institutions on their trading in government stocks. And the life assurance companies fear the abolition of special tax relief on policies. Some permutation of these

changes could bring him a useful £500m or so.

● Excise duties. The Chancellor could use the European ruling on beer and wine to justify a big hike in beer duty, rather than a cut in the duty on wine. An extra 2p on a pint of beer (making 3p in all), for example, would raise nearly £200m. And since petrol prices have been kept down by competition at the pumps, listen for a special hike in petrol duty.

● Tax loopholes. In the Chancellor's sights this time are company cars (though the higher tax rates probably would not take effect until 1985-86) and, more generally, the use of foreign "tax havens".

The sweeteners

So what's the Chancellor going to give away? There's a long list of candidates here too:

● Income tax. The big money would go on increases in personal allowances, over and above the inflation-proofing changes shown in the table above. If, for example, the Chancellor were to raise them 8 per cent instead of 5 per cent, that would cost an extra £500m. Although he is not required to do so by statute, the Chancellor may spend some money stretching out the income tax bands, to compensate for inflation.

● Investment income surcharge. The Chancellor is expected to please his audience on the Tory backbenches by either halving this (from 15 per cent to 7½ per cent) or abolishing it altogether - which would still cost him less than £300m. If he doesn't, listen for a big increase in the threshold - at present the surcharge starts at £7,100.

● Capital taxes. The thresholds and bands for capital transfer tax have, since 1982, always been raised in line with inflation. That would mean raising the basic threshold from £60,000 to £63,000. The same applies to capital gains tax, which would mean increasing the exempt amounts for individuals by £300 to £5,600.

● Stamp duty. To encourage "wider share ownership", a pet government theme, the Chancellor may halve the 2 per cent duty on share transactions (at a cost of £200m). Is he cutting stamp duty on house purchases as well?

● Share options and profit-sharing schemes. Greater tax relief on share options was part of the 1983 Budget, but did not get through before the election. Another held-over change of importance to companies is an improvement in the tax treatment of "deep discounted bonds".

● National Insurance Surcharge. Cutting the surcharge took up most of Sir Geoffrey Howe's spare cash as Chancellor. It is industry's main plea again this year. Mr Lawson will certainly not allow it to rise from the present 1 per cent. But it would cost him more than £700m to abolish it altogether, and industry fears he wants to spend his money on the personal taxpayer this year. However, one option much favoured by the punters is a business package in which changes in VAT on imports, capital allowances, tax on share schemes, the national insurance surcharge, modest changes in corporation tax and the business expansion scheme - all roughly cancel each other out in terms of cost.

The dogs that don't bark

What are the gaps to watch out for? Every Chancellor worth his salt has some changes no one has guessed, and the Treasury has been trying particularly hard this year to prove it does not leak the Budget in advance. But two ingredients of classic Howe budgets are not much in evidence in the gossip. No more lists of small business measures or new employment schemes seem to be on the cards. It will be interesting to hear what Mr Lawson thinks his first Budget will do to cut the dole queue.

Budget coverage

Radio: 4: 3.15 pm Budget Special, 6 pm News and Budget Special, 10.30 pm Financial World Tonight
Television: BBC1: 3-5.40 pm Budget Special, 9.25-9.35 pm The Chancellor, 10.30-10.45 pm The Chancellor, 10.45-11.00 pm Newsnight, 11.00-11.15 pm Budget 84, 11.15-11.30 pm The Chancellor Channel Four 7-7.50 pm Budget News and analysis.

moreover... Miles Kingston

How to survive Budget Day

Budget Day today, and it is possible to get through it sane and unscathed, but only if you follow these trusted pieces of advice, which have been tested successfully on many previous Budgets.

DON'T read any newspaper articles that give Mr Lawson advice on his Budget. If he were going to take advice, and I've no idea whether he does, he would have done it long ago.

DO drink plenty of cool clear water. Not only is it very good for you, it is also tax free. At the moment.

DON'T rush out and buy bottles of whisky. Even if it is affected by the Budget, prices never go up until days afterwards.

DO make sure you are nowhere near a radio or TV set from midday until about midnight tonight. You will only hear people saying, "Mr Lawson is still spelling out the general picture", or "Which is more or less what we expected" or "How will this affect the man with two children, one mortgage and a working wife, Dominic?"

DON'T start counting your children, mortgages and married partners. Except, in very rare cases, they will be exactly the same as yesterday.

DO go out for a long walk in the country before sunset.

DON'T be surprised if Mr Lawson puts taxes on some things and takes them off others. This is called balancing the books. What this means is, shifting the books around so fast they look as if they are balanced.

DO get out your stamp collection you haven't looked at since you were a child, clear up that part of the garden you've been meaning to deal with since Michaelmas, or settle down with a good dictionary. All of these are more valuable than listening to the Budget as it happens. So is cleaning your ears with cotton wool. So is staring into space.

DON'T get into conversation with people who have heard what the Budget is about. They won't know anything except what they have been told by the radio people, and they don't know anything except what they have heard from Mr Lawson, and he doesn't know much. Just say, if you have to say anything, "It's far too early to tell yet".

DO resist any temptation to Beat the Budget. Like shopping early for Christmas or avoiding the rush hour, this is a purely metaphysical concept and does not exist in the real world.

DON'T read any newspaper articles claiming to forecast what Mr Lawson is going to do. If by some miracle they get it right, then Mr Lawson will probably read it too and change his Budget so as not to look foolish.

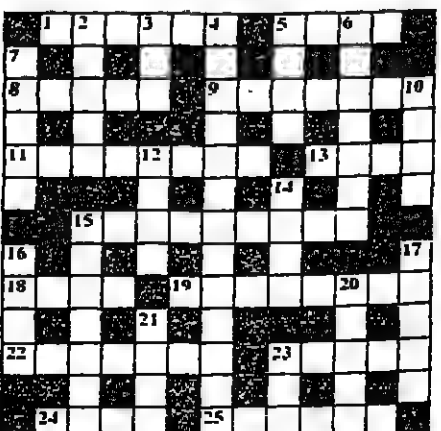
DO go out and do something you've always wanted to do but never dared, like buy a false moustache for immediate use, or start learning to juggle, or send a dozen fresh roses to your accountant.

DON'T worry if the Labour Party condemns the Budget as totally useless, if not downright wicked. That's what they are paid to do.

DO worry if they accept the Budget as a good one. You have probably misunderstood something very badly.

DON'T buy evening papers this evening, especially if they have the words UP and DOWN printed in huge letters. Get a foreign paper instead. You'd be surprised how much real news there is around.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 290)



- ACROSS
1 Gross overcharge (3,3)
5 Catnip (4)
8 Trick (3)
9 Take flight (2,4)
11 Busy travel time (7)
12 Police raid (4,4)
15 Peanut (5,3)
18 Indian music pattern (4)
19 Eskimo greeting (3,5)
22 Maxim (7)
23 Rest room (5)
24 Deep unconsciousness (4)
25 Fitting taking clergyman (6)
- DOWN
2 Middle ear bone (5)
3 African group (1,1,1)
4 Wealth seeker (7,6)
6 Pre Easter (4)
7 Court proceedings (7)
10 Abominable snowman (4)
12 Assistance (4)
14 Unknown author (4)
15 Engine sparker (7)
16 Let fall (4)
17 Intimidate (5)
20 Begin working (3,2)
21 Greek goat cheese (4)
23 Alphabet (1,1,1)

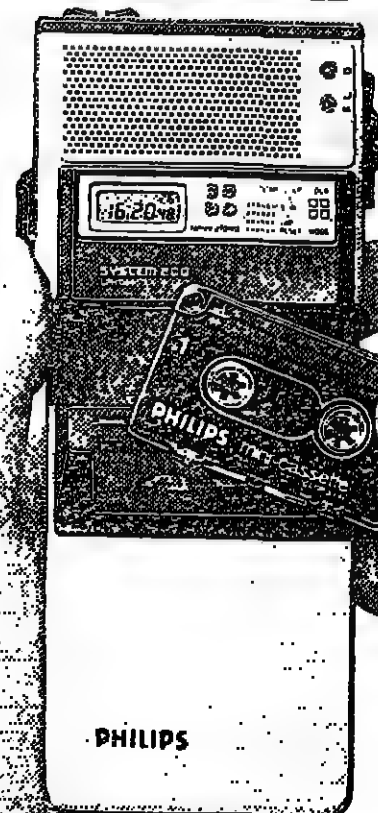
SOLUTION TO No 289
ACROSS: 1 Condemns 9 Autocue 10 Croup 11 Nod 13 Icon 16 Pale 17 Easter 18 Cape 20 Vans 21 Shrine 22 Aps 23 Sun 25 Has 28 Hyde 29 Pullman 30 Extravaganza
DOWN: 2 Oudis 3 Tick 4 Eder 5 Exel 6 Proxima 7 Hugsy 8 M Appointment 12 Iconic 14 Net 15 Vahma 19 Paradox 20 Yes 24 Lumin 25 Hat 26 Spit 27 Nag

PHILIPS

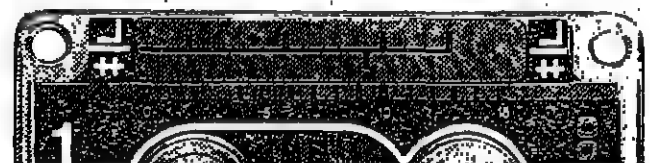
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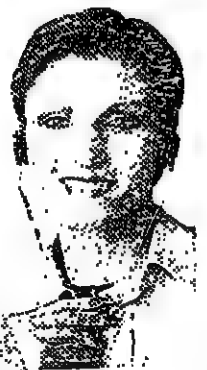


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Of all the weapons a police officer has to face, this could do him the most harm.

Point a knife or a broken bottle at a police officer and he has the law and his training behind him.

Point a finger and he's on his own.

If you don't believe it, read the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

On the one hand the new bill legitimately strengthens the rights of the public who wish to pursue a genuine complaint against the police. On the other hand, it effectively reduces every man and woman on the beat to the rank of second class citizen.

Faced with a complaint, genuine or otherwise, a police officer is very much up against it. The case will be dealt with on an internal disciplinary basis, behind closed doors.

When this happens the officer concerned is denied legal representation. Hostile witnesses ranged against him will not be subject to the Rules of Evidence which prevail in an ordinary court of justice (hearsay is permitted). Neither will they risk prosecution for perjury (no oath is taken).

Altogether the judgement will be based on a lower standard of proof than a court would demand. Yet the penalties incurred can be savage.

An officer can be dismissed, required to resign, reduced in rank or fined thousands of pounds.

And there are two further stings in the tail.

The charged officer can only call in a lawyer at an appeal tribunal after he has already been sacked or demoted.

Even this option isn't open to officers who are fined, however heavily. And there's no recourse to the Employment Protection or Industrial Relations Acts.

It's not that the police service are asking for favours under the law. With the full backing of the Law Society and the National Council for Civil Liberties, they merely seek equality.

In a job that lays them open to more than their fair share of attacks, the police deserve the same civil rights as everyone else.

And the public agrees. The latest MORI Poll shows 82% of people think a police officer should have the right to legal representation.

Police or public, the new bill owes them a fair hearing.

The Police Federation.

15-17 Langley Road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone 01-399 2224.

THE TIMES DIARY

Haunted house

A group of nuns, who are to be drafted in to Hertfordshire from Italy to run a country house for aged Italian immigrants, may receive the odd confusing phone call when the home, to be known as the Villa Scalabrini, opens next year.

The house was formerly the private Elstree Nursing Home, which, according to the Scalabrini Fathers who have just acquired it for £450,000, was last run as an abortion centre. Launching an appeal to raise £750,000 for the project, Father Alberto Vico said none of the priests knew of the home's past until the deposit had been paid. "By then it was too late, I was shocked."

Architect Peter Bailey said it was "like the Mary Celeste". Everything was still intact - the operating theatre, the sterilization room, the recovery room. Even the trolleys, he told me, were piled "with dirty linen". Father Vico says he has sold the operating table and theatre lights to an Indian for shipment to India. However, he has been forced to retain the clinic beds - "We need everything we can get."

Yesterday, the Fathers' agents Gould and Co admitted they had known Elstree had been used for medicine. "The fact of abortion may only have been one feature of it." They had not told the Fathers because "it is not our job to concern ourselves with the decency of a former business".

Life sentence



Ruth Ellis

Georgina Enston, daughter of Ruth Ellis, the last woman to be hanged in Britain, has volunteered to relive the horror of her mother's execution when she attends rehearsals next week for a play, *Breakneck*, about the case, at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, London.

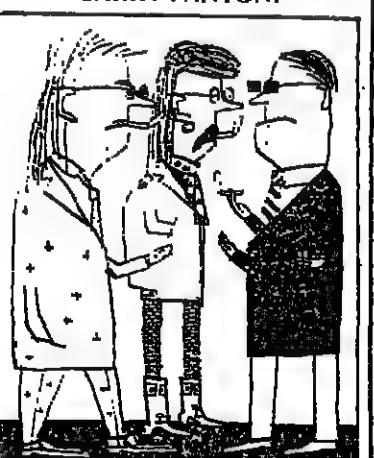
Miss Enston, now a model in Lancashire, has also agreed to attend the play's press night on April 9 - the night before the twenty-ninth anniversary of the murder, when Ruth Ellis shot her lover in a Hampstead gutter. Miss Enston was only three when her mother was hanged in Holloway. Known to her friends as "Georgy", she says that for most of her life "I have tried to face up to the image of the hangman peering through the peephole into her cell... as for the scene on the gallows, I just blank it out".

● A trial using super-sniffing gerbils to smell out illegal drugs and other contraband in Canadian prisons has been scrapped. The rodents, being used at Warkworth penitentiary since last October, proved too sensitive, and kept activating the equipment whenever they detected nervousness in prisoners.

No water with it

The Romantic Weekend Book out from Futura on March 22 promises "a charming Scottish welcome" at Sunlows House Hotel in Kelso. I trust the proprietor, the Duke of Roxburgh, is not so canny with his drinks cabinet towards paying guests. When trying to publicize Sunlows, the duke, brother-in-law of the Duke of Westminster, and one of Britain's wealthiest landowners, asked me to his home in Eaton Square. Not even a glass of Highland Spring was on offer.

BARRY FANTONI



"Dave meet Nigel. Dave plays the guitar - Nigel plays cricket"

Happy ending

After Professor Richard Cobb's disclosure that he was once charged as an accessory to murder, I learn that Norman Stone, his successor to the chair of Modern History at Worcester College, Oxford, has a criminal record. In 1964, the then 21-year-old research student spent four months in a Czechoslovak jail after he was caught trying to smuggle out an Austrian friend's Hungarian fiancée, Tibor Karman, to the West through Czechoslovakia.

"The whole escape was organized with about as much efficiency as the flight of Varennes," said Stone yesterday, with a suitably historical allusion to Louis XVI's abortive attempt to flee the guillotine. After "decant treatment" in prison, Stone was released to witness a happy ending: Karman was allowed out to the West, and married his fiancée.

PHS

Bring back the spirit of '49

In the seventh of our series marking 35 years of Nato, Roy Jenkins, former President of the EEC Commission, urges a revival of the energy that was put into its creation



The North Atlantic Treaty was signed by the 12 founder members in Washington on April 4, 1949. Only seven of them had been involved in the

detailed negotiations. It had all been put together in a period of just over a year. It would have been a most formidable feat of political engineering in any event. As the period was bisected by a most keenly fought presidential election, which the incumbent was expected to lose, in the country which had to make overwhelmingly the greatest contribution in terms both of resources and of sacrifice of tradition, it becomes simply prodigious.

It makes the present habit of the 10 member governments of the European Community of grinding through council after council, turning them each into an accountants' wrangle, but reaching no solution even to the accountability problem, let alone embracing wider issues, seem not merely puny but a disgraceful abdication of leadership. Sir Geoffrey Howe, *pace* Mrs Thatcher, may be a "brilliant negotiator" in this forum but it is an impasse and not a constructive solution which is too often the outcome of his, her and everyone else's current negotiations.

If the present leaders of the Community, and not their wider-perspectiveed forebears, had been in charge of North Atlantic affairs 35 years ago, I doubt if the United States would have been committed, Berlin saved, the Marshall Plan implemented, European recovery got underway or European security underpinned.

Contrary to the "revisionist" view that the Americans encouraged the cold war to enable them to create

It contained the Soviet thrust... and maintained the peace

Nato, and thereby dominate western Europe, they were distinctly hesitant in the early stages. Nor did the French help much. They were in favour - Gaullist detachment came later, but thought principally in terms of the minimum immediate shipment of American military supplies to France rather than in wider or longer terms.

The Federal Republic did not exist, so there could be no question of West Germany being admitted at that stage. Even the admission of Italy was a matter of considerable controversy until towards the end, but more on the ground of its geographical position than because of ex-enemy status. Norway, Denmark, Iceland and Portugal (in ascending order of exclusion) played little or no part in the negotiations.

Those who were crucial to pushing the United States forward were Britain, Canada and the

Benelux countries. The Canadians were much to the fore. It was not merely the preponderance of US power which made it a *North Atlantic Treaty*. This British and Canadian role may have helped to fuel Berlin's deeply mistaken later suspicions of the purely European Coal and Steel Community.

The still more crucial attribute of the new organization was however the preponderance within it of American power. In the late 1940s, it was overwhelming: militarily, politically, economically, monetarily. The mainland of western Europe had a great history, and maybe a future, but in the then present it was only just beginning to crawl up from a pit of poverty and near-despair, and escape from being a strategic vacuum. Britain was different. We were the simulacrum of a great power, one of the victorious Big Three. But our resources were grossly over-stretched, and in reality our economy was almost as weak as that of France or Germany or Italy, without having the advantage of being so stripped down as almost having to start again.

What was the history of the Alliance over its first decades? First, it contained the Soviet thrust to western Europe. The position never again looked as menacing as it did in 1947-48, with the communist parties in France and Italy almost poised for a takeover and Berlin beleaguered. Second, it maintained the peace on the central front where the armies and influence of the superpowers were in immediate juxtaposition.

Third, American leadership maintained the broad loyalty of the other members, in spite of the strains of Suez and of Dulles's brinkmanship in the 1950s, the US disaster in Vietnam in the late 1960s and early 1970s, and then partly as a consequence, the collapse of the dollar-centred Bretton Woods monetary system and the partial collapse of the dollar itself.

Fourth, and fairly steadily, there also proceeded an eastwards shift in the balance of power within the Alliance. In every sphere, except that of nuclear strike-power, which itself became less important (but not less dangerous) as the Soviet Union moved towards a position of

equality, Europe became both relatively and absolutely stronger, and the US relatively weaker.

The emergence of the Federal Republic as an economic wonder and as a major conventional military power, the unprecedented general European surge to prosperity associated with the first 15 years of the EEC - the weak dollar and the somewhat apologetic tone (although often far from foolish actions) of the Carter presidency, all contributed to this process.

It was fortified by the growth of political cooperation in Europe and by the Schmidt/Giscard leadership (not always good but at least discernible) of the Community. It was epitomized by Herr Schmidt lecturing the President, more in a sorrow than in anger, but in a way that it would have been impossible to imagine Adenauer doing with Eisenhower. It was statistically supported by the Community overtaking the US in total income.

That phase now looks to be over. Already, to take the last point first, the combined national income of the Community countries has fallen back to 93 per cent of that of the United States. Short-term the gap is widening daily, but the longer-term prospect is much more serious, with Europe dropping behind in the technology of the new industrial revolution to such an extent as to take it out of the league of the US and Japan.

At the same time the political cohesion of the Community is being increasingly lost as the budgetary rows endlessly dominate the available time in the meetings of heads of government and foreign ministers. The much talked of strengthening of the European pillar of the Alliance is not merely not happening; such strength as the pillar had already achieved is being eroded.

Atlanticists who were cool on Europe might argue that this did not matter if it coincided with a prospect of Washington resuming its old effortless captaincy, and this being again freely accepted throughout the West. This is almost the reverse of the reality. "Effortless" in some senses the leadership of the White House may currently be, but it creates more conflict and suspicion in most of the other members of

Nato than at almost any other time in the past 35 years.

This contains great dangers. For the foreseeable future the Atlantic Alliance remains as necessary as when it was created. The greatest threats to the peace and indeed the survival of the world arise out of a paradox. On the one hand there is the menace of an unimaginative belief that all that is necessary is to learn the lessons of the 1930s - rearm, don't appease, try to out-missile the enemy - and the world will be safe. But on the other hand there is a great need for a steadiness of hand. An inconsistency of purpose could be fatal. The delicacy of the nuclear balance requires predictability on both sides.

The worst dangers could arise from a disintegration of Nato, which might well encourage Russian foolishness, or from a sudden break-up of the east European empire which, particularly if it coincided with a dispute between the military and the party in Moscow, could turn the Soviet Union into a lurching giant.

The latter we can do little about, except to encourage Russian confidence rather than to believe that abusive "megaphone diplomacy" helps. The former is something to which this country, with West Germany, is pivotal. American

The European allies are not in high standing in Washington

actions - and still more, American talk - sometimes rightly arouse distrust and disapproval. But the continuing need for a particular President or for that matter a particular Prime Minister.

Nor should we ignore the fact that the European allies are not currently in very high standing in Washington. We are seen as disorganized and vacillating. President Carter's administration was criticized from this side of the Atlantic for one set of faults; President Reagan is criticized for the reverse.

This springs from a dangerous dichotomy in European feeling about America. We are torn between fear that it will desert us, and apprehension that it wants to use us as, for it, a relatively safe nuclear battle ground. That is totally unrealistic because there can be no such things. But we should have the imagination to see how aggravatingly contradictory this dichotomy can look from the other side of the ocean.

If we are to avoid an unnecessary and damaging destabilization of the world, a little more of the spirit of 1949 is necessary across the Atlantic as well as in Europe.

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A full collection of articles in this series will be published in book form in cooperation with the Georgetown Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington.

Roger Scruton

The root of all freedom

Almost everyone curses money, because almost everyone believes, either that he does not have enough of it, or that some other person has too much. In the judgment of religion money represents the sacrifice of spiritual peace to worldly agitation; in the judgment of the enlightened moralist, it represents the supreme triumph of means over ends, the "instrumentalization" of human purposes, and the final self-alienation of man.

But money has survived these curses, and will always survive them. It bears the imprint of original sin - but only because it is all too human. Indeed, money is so integral a part of our social existence, that we perceive it as a heraldic emblem of government. Caesar's head may be embossed upon his coinage, but not so deeply as his coinage is embossed upon his hand.

Consider what man is without his money. He must dispose of his surplus product by gift or barter. His transactions are limited, clumsy and time-consuming. He has no certain measure of the value of what is offered to him, and will be reluctant to exchange his produce with those whom he does not know.

Money totally transforms his situation. It removes uncertainty, by providing a single scale of value. It permits transactions of the utmost flexibility with the widest circle of purchasers. By virtue of money, goods and services are rapidly dispersed to their natural destinations, and each man's surplus is poured at once into a common pool, from which it may be drawn off to some distant point imperceptible to the producer. Hence money focuses our economic impulses, while extending the sphere of their repercussions; under its influence, exchange multiplies quietly and peacefully to infinity.

And yet, apart from its function in exchange, money is worthless. It is a pure economic instrument; the means to almost everything, but the end of nothing. Money is the condensed residue of unspoken contracts, and its power lies in its ability to establish both the motive and the terms of every new agreement, between ever new parties, concerning ever new matters of exchange. But there too lies its virtue. For money is "crystallized agreement" - the sign and the consummation of social harmony.

Or at least, so it should be. Money can encapsulate harmony, however, only so long as we believe in the banker who supports it with his promise. What is this promise? To

hand over a stated quantity of gold? But what is gold, if not money, whose value again depends entirely upon our willingness to accept it as an object of exchange?

To put it simply, the bank promises to sustain as best it can the purchasing power of its coinage. It does this by attaching money, not to a valuable substance, but to a valuable process. Its money should symbolize, not a quantity of gold, but a stake in the means of production. For it is the process of production which is the ultimate provider of everything that may be bought and sold. It is production, therefore, that is the objective guarantee of value.

But not every bank recognizes the obligation to match its promises by its investments. Consider the national banks of the communist world, kept precariously afloat by massive loans from foolish private bankers in the West. The currency of the communist world is supported, not by productive investment, but by price control. The result is devastating: shortages, black markets, and a society rotten with secret thefts which can never be punished, and with secret contracts that can never be enforced. Important transactions are now conducted by barter, or by the use of "hard currency" from a foreign bank.

Communist regimes have even established shops which sell for foreign currency what is unobtainable for Caesar's coin. Hence, to the tacit admission that its money is nothing but an empty promise, the national bank adds an insulting display of the privileges enjoyed by the few, by virtue of its broken promise towards the many. In the money of such countries, one holds the sign and the consummation of social discord, of the haunting division between "us" and "them".

If we are revolted by the meaning of those scraps of paper, however, we should be less than wholly pleased by the meaning of our own familiar quid, which has barely retained its capacity as a quid pro quo. Our money too is sustained by ability to establish both the motive and the terms of every new agreement, between ever new parties, concerning ever new matters of exchange. But there too lies its virtue. For money is "crystallized agreement" - the sign and the consummation of social harmony.

Or at least, so it should be. Money can encapsulate harmony, however, only so long as we believe in the banker who supports it with his promise. What is this promise? To

Robin Cook

The Tory pipsqueaks may yet squeal

Mr Speaker, Sir. This morning I braced myself for my Budget speech with a stroll from No 11 around St James's Park. As I entered that part of the park which is secluded by rhododendrons I found my way blocked by Pallas Athene, goddess of ancient democracy and giver of wisdom. Athene fully armed in an impressive sight which brooks no argument. I therefore find myself under an obligation to preface my measures with a review of greater candour than is customary on these occasions. Her Majesty's Government wishes to record its gratitude to the Low Pay Unit for supplying at such short notice the statistical content.

Members of the House will be familiar with our repeated claim that the historic tax achievement of the last Conservative government was to shift the balance of the burden from taxation on income to taxation on spending. Those Members who ever bother to look inside the annual Budget Red Book will also be aware that this claim is best characterized by an unparliamentary term which you, Mr Speaker, would not permit me to use.

In reality, we have fully funded all cuts in income tax by piling the burden on to national insurance contributions by employees. To be quite honest, we have made a rather tidy surplus out of the shift. Since we took office total revenue in real terms from income tax has fallen by £1.2 billion, while revenue from insurance contributions has risen by £3.4 billion - three times as much as income tax has fallen. The net effect, as Members will readily apprehend, is that the total burden of tax on income has increased quite substantially. The proportion of income absorbed by state deductions has risen from 21.2 per cent to 22.5 per cent.

Personally, I never understood why the public go ape when income tax goes up, but accept with fatalism much heavier rises in insurance contributions. Whatever the explanation, it has been very convenient for our administration as it has helped us lift a large chunk of the tax burden off the shoulders of the wealthy, who do not pay insurance contributions on that part of their salary that exceeds £12,220, and dump it on the poor, who start paying on insurance contributions on wages well below the income tax threshold.

The extent to which the income tax burden has been redistributed from rich to poor has been quite the most striking development in the tax structure since we took office, and I was therefore surprised to see on leaving through the Budget speeches of my predecessor that he never gave this achievement the prominence it plainly demands. The main engine of the tumbling rate of tax in the higher rate band, accompanied by a sharp jump in the rate of tax on low-income groups through the elimination of the lower rate band which

previously enabled the poorest tax payers to contribute at 25 per cent rather than 30 per cent. Our assault on taxes on capital has also helped and by undermining Capital Transfer Tax and cutting investment Income Surcharge, we have lightened by a full quarter the tax burden on those with personal wealth.

As a contribution to disinterested appraisal of our tax record I have calculated the break-even point in salary which is required in order to pay less in tax now than in 1979. I mention this figure with some diffidence because colleagues will readily appreciate that I and other Ministers of the Crown are above the line and therefore advantaged by the shift in tax burden, while backbench Members of the House are below it and shouldering part of the burden we have shed.

More disturbing is the irresistible conclusion that large numbers of electors earning less than £11,500 must have voted Tory last year, and some day they may wake up to the

The total tax burden of the nation has increased

unpalatable discovery that despite the rhetoric the Conservative Party is for them the party of higher taxation.

Before concluding this overview I must enter in mitigation that our claim to have shifted the tax burden from income to spending has validity, at least insofar as we have dramatically increased the burden of indirect taxation. The precise scale of increase is a matter of some sensitivity with us. As Financial Secretary, I once talked myself into difficulty by arguing that we had not doubled VAT because we had not altered the zero rate of VAT, provoking much innocent comment at my expense among Opposition Members, who pointed out it was arithmetically impossible to double zero but that we would no doubt have done it if we could. To save argument let me concede that indirect taxation now yields a quarter more in real terms than before we took office.

Indirect taxation takes 26 per cent of the gross income of the poorest tenth, but only 16 per cent of the richest tenth. By loading more on to indirect taxation we have again hit the poorest hardest as a matter of policy.

In short, after five years of our administration the total tax burden of the nation has increased substantially and there has been a dramatic redistribution of the burden in favour of the rich at the expense of the poor, against all considerations of fairness, justice or ability to pay.

It is against that record that the House must judge the tax measures I announce this afternoon. Whatever they may be.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Did Sergei Antonov plot to kill the Pope? Claire Sterling reports

In search of the Bulgarian connexion

It now seems clear that Sergei Antonov, the Bulgarian, under arrest in Italy for more than a year, will have to stand trial on charges of direct complicity in the plot to assassinate the Pope three years ago. A formal recommendation to this effect by the Italian state prosecutor, Antonio Albano, is expected soon.

His decision will be based on several thousand pages of evidence submitted by Judge Iorio Martella, whose two-year investigation into the case was completed last December. A separate 1,000-page report by Judge Martella is expected to be released this week.

The prosecutor's findings may come as a surprise after repeated press reports of Antonov's imminent release for lack of evidence. He has indeed been described widely as the innocent victim of a frame-up, after Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca identified him as one of three Bulgarian intelligence agents who had taken an active part in the plot. The prevailing image of Agca in the western press has been that of a mentally unbalanced killer and pathological liar.

While this version of the case has been favoured by Mr Antonov's lawyers all along, they have been overruled consistently by the Italian court. Four times since the arrest, on November 25, 1982, they have appealed for Antonov's release on the ground of insufficient evidence. The court has ruled each time that the evidence against him is sufficiently strong to warrant his continued detention.

The fourth of these rulings was made on December 21 by Judge Martella, who was quoted by Italy's state news agency, Ansa, as saying that he "could not concede provisional liberty to Mr Antonov because of the gravity of the charges against him".

In that same ruling, Judge Martella authorized Antonov's transfer from prison to house arrest, for health reasons. Antonov was said to be suffering from anorexia, headaches and gastro-intestinal disturbances.

The transfer was widely taken to mean that Antonov has halfway to freedom, that Agca's confession therefore had no credibility, and that the entire Bulgarian connexion to the papal plot had collapsed.

In reality, Antonov's juridical status remained unchanged. On the day of his transfer to house arrest, the state prosecutor appealed to Italy's emergency Tribunal of Liberty for his immediate return to prison, arguing that he might otherwise escape or be murdered. On January 13, the tribunal



"Escorted" to an apartment in Rome. Antonov is still under strict surveillance

concurred, ordering Antonov's return to prison within three days.

The tribunal's ruling left little room for doubt about the Italian judiciary's ultimate intentions in the case. The three judges who signed the decision stated that there was nothing physically wrong with Antonov that could not be treated in a prison hospital. Though he had lost 15 lb in prison, he still weighed an unanorexic 160 lb, they observed. The sum of his physical ailments suggested that he "simply wanted to go home".

By appealing against the tribunal's ruling to the Supreme Court, Antonov's lawyers have staved off his return to jail for several weeks. But the strict surveillance to which he is subjected scarcely suggests that he is halfway to freedom. A tank is stationed permanently outside the apartment house, largely inhabited by Bulgarian diplomats, where he is staying. Police wearing bullet-proof vests and armed with submachine guns are stationed in the lobby, and at front and back entrances. Police check Antonov's own quarters every three hours to ensure he is there.

As an additional precaution, exceptional security protection has been laid on for Antonov's accuser, Agca. He has been placed in a prison cell sealed off from all others, at the end of a corridor. Anyone trying to reach him must pass through eight locked gates, for which eight different police guards hold the keys. His food is specially prepared by a police agent assigned to him, and his cell is searched regularly when he leaves it for outdoor exercise.

The authorities' evident anxiety to keep Agca alive appears to reflect their conclusion that his story is essentially believable, and that he is legally sane.

His sanity has been attested to by the Italian judiciary since his own trial in July, 1981, two months after the assassination attempt. Judge Deverino Santapiichi, one of Italy's most eminent jurists and presiding judge at that trial, noted in his written verdict that Agca had shown qualities of "full psychic maturity", and "uncommon gifts of mental equilibrium". He was no "delirious ideologue", felt "no personal hostility toward the Pope", and did not appear a religious fanatic. His "spirit of discipline, professional commitment and skill in the use of lethal

weapons" had made him an ideal instrument for the assassination attempt, in which he had "merely been used as a pawn".

There appeared to be no question in the court's mind even then that Agca had been used as a professional hit-man by a conspiratorial band. "Grave questions arise concerning the possibility of material complicity in the crime and a plot at high levels," continued the judge in his written verdict.

It was largely as a result of Judge Santapiichi's verdict that the Italian judiciary ordered a new investigation of the shooting, assigning Judge Martella to the job.

Since then, Judge Martella has put one Bulgarian and two Turks under arrest, issued arrest warrants for two more Turks and another two Bulgarians - all fugitives - on charges of direct complicity. "All of those indicated as having participated in the criminal plan had operated in Bulgaria," he said.

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The writer is author of *The Time of the Assassins: the inside story of the plot to kill the Pope*, published by Angus & Robertson at £7.95.

هكذا من الأصل



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CUTTING THE COST OF COAL

As the miners' strikes spread falteringly across the country yesterday, attention understandably focused on the tactics of the National Union of Mineworkers, rather than the issue over which the strikes had been called. Has the long-running overtime ban succeeded in its aim of softening up the National Coal Board by dissipating its high level of stocks? Has the loss of overtime pay embittered the miners or simply led to disillusion with the aura of confrontation assiduously maintained at their expense by Mr Arthur Scargill? The current brinkmanship of the union executive in permitting militant areas to go on strike and to picket other pits, while maintaining the democratic facade of a free choice in the matter, has a compelling quality of suspense. Will that tactic threaten the miner against prosperous secure miner, or will it create an atmosphere in which solidarity can triumph over common sense? And if the miners' traditional solidarity does triumph, will Mr Scargill then try to achieve what he has theretofore failed to achieve before a legitimate national strike endorsed by a secret ballot, as one weekend poll suggested he could now do?

This is all fascinating stuff for students of the manipulation of power and of men. But the main reason for this concentration on Mr Scargill's strike tactics is that there are no deeper issues to discuss.

A little less than half of the coal from Britain's pits is profitable at current prices. A similar proportion currently makes a loss, but a loss that

might be eliminated by higher productivity, better prices or the equalization of subsidies which are generally higher in the rest of Europe. But a tenth of the Coal Board's output comes from high-cost pits that are irretrievable loss-makers, at more than £20 per tonne, and account for three-quarters of the board's losses.

It does not take a ruthless capitalist to work out what Mr Ian MacGregor and the Coal Board should be doing. The 1974 Plan for Coal, the shocking Monopolies Commission report, the House of Lords select committee report on European Community coal policy, successive Commons select committees, ministers and Coal Board managers have all concluded that the Board should invest in new low-cost pits and close old uneconomic ones.

The first half of that policy is being realized. It is high time the uneconomic pits were closed, for the immediate benefit of the taxpayer and the long-term benefit of miners. If Mr MacGregor does not have a "hit list", then he should. In his heart, even the most socialist-minded miner must see Mr Scargill's insistence that there are no uneconomic pits as no more than Stalinist newspeak.

This is the tragic element in the strike. Even if it succeeded in its immediate aims, the miners would merely be putting off the evil day, in nobody's interest. Mr MacGregor's acceleration of the closure programme - a mild acceleration at that - reflects the backlog built up before. The cost of that backlog may not have affected the Board's main investment programme, but has al-

most certainly diverted cash from marginal pits, where insufficient peripheral cost-saving investment has dissipated productivity gains made at the coal face.

Nor has the delay made a single miner's job more secure. A stay of execution is far from being a free pardon. No government, no Coal Board management can offer long-term guarantees to those working in the no-hope pits which any miner can identify for himself by glancing at the records in last year's Monopolies Commission report.

The fate of the uneconomic steelworks is eloquent testimony to that. In that industry, luxury was followed by butchery. There is, rightly, no suggestion of such a strategy of short-term profit and loss being applied to coal, despite Mr MacGregor's talk of equalizing supply and demand.

If the miners accepted what is plainly inevitable, they could devote their energies to more constructive matters. The Coal Board's offer to extend big severance payments to miners under fifty is not the over-generous golden handshake some take it for. It is a compensation for lack of job opportunity, which can be rapidly whittled away under social security rules. The miners could have a strong case if they insisted that they could not simply be paid off and forgotten about: that more time and effort should be devoted to revitalizing the depressed communities in which most of the threatened miners live; and that closures are phased, at government expense when there are overriding social arguments for doing so.

TIME TO HELP THE AFGHANS

Afghanistan is "gone", according to the currently fashionable view in intelligence and diplomatic circles. All the West can do about it, in this view, is to "make the Russians pay", so that they think twice before attempting to swallow any more countries in the same manner. Some might even go so far as to argue that to have the Russians embroiled in Afghanistan, regularly if ritually condemned by the United Nations, is a positive benefit to the West.

Two dissenting Western views on the subject have been heard lately at the Royal Institute of International Affairs. In December Mr Selig S. Harrison, an American journalist with long experience of reporting and commenting on South Asian affairs, argued that the Russians have not yet established the kind of bases in Afghanistan that they would use for strategic regional action as opposed to the local war against the guerrillas, and that they might yet be willing to withdraw if a way could be found to save their face, by preserving the form of continuity with the disastrous "Saur revolution" (alias the communist coup) of 1978, while allowing the content to evolve in the direction of a government reflecting the genuine choice of the Afghan people.

Western governments are rightly sceptical about the possibility of doing this, and wary of incurring any degree of responsibility for helping an unpopular government to stay in power in Kabul if and when the Russians really left. They have made no secret of this scepticism in their discussions with the Pakistan Government, and this has reinforced the caution with which that Government in any case approached its indirect talks with the communist regime in Kabul through the United Nations. Whether that caution in turn has discouraged the Russians from setting even a hypothetical timetable for their withdrawal (as Mr Harrison suspects), whether they never seriously intended to anyway, or

whether they have got cold feet for some other reason, can only be a matter of conjecture. Whatever the reason, their refusal to do so has effectively stymied the UN negotiations.

A different dissenting view was given by M Olivier Roy, a French orientalist with an intimate knowledge of Afghanistan and especially of the Afghan resistance, in a talk at Chatham House last week. M Roy, who made the latest of many long journeys through the Afghan interior last summer, sees a much more complex picture. He found Afghanistan a surprisingly "free and open" country, which neither the Russians nor the Afghan army were seriously attempting to control beyond a narrow perimeter surrounding the major towns and the three asphalted roads.

M Roy believes that Western observers have over-emphasized the disunity of the Afghan resistance because their contacts have been with the Pushtun-speaking southern areas of the country where the organization is predominantly tribal. It is true, he says, that there is little or no Afghan nationalism properly so called, since there has never been an Afghan nation in most of the senses in which that term is used. But Islam is a common heritage which provides the great majority of Afghans with an identity that clearly divides them from the communist invader, and the most effective resistance groups are those which have theorized Islam as a political philosophy. They are not necessarily fundamentalist in the sense of obscurantist their model, in many cases, would be something closer to Bani-Sadr than Khomeini. (Not that Iran would necessarily provide the model in any case: the majority of Afghans, including those who speak Persian, are Sunni not Shia Muslims.)

According to M Roy the strongest resistance group now is the Jamiat-e Islami ("Islamic Society"), which he describes as "moderate Islamicist", and which since 1981 has overtaken

the more radical Hizb-e Islami ("Islamic Party") led by Mr Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, whose energies have been directed more against other resistance groups than against the Soviet invader.

The Jamiat is the group to which Ahmad Shah Massoud, the charismatic commander in the Panjshir valley belongs. Its leader, Mr Burhanuddin Rabbani, is a respected Islamic scholar but also an authority on Persian poetry, potentially capable of unifying religious and secular strands within the resistance. The group's greatest limitation is that its support is predominantly Tajik (Persian-speaking) whereas traditionally the Pathans (Pushtun-speaking) have been the dominant group in Afghanistan. But after the fall of last year's attempt by ex-King Zahir Shah to unify the resistance around the old Pathan court, the time may be ripe for a less traditional, more dynamic leadership to emerge.

The Pakistani authorities, who in the past found it convenient to encourage Afghan divisions, are apparently now more favourable to the emergence of a unified leadership which could win international recognition and support. That does not necessarily mean that they will allow highly sophisticated weapons to reach Afghanistan through their territory, for they seem to have a tacit understanding with the Russians which allows them to escape reprisals so long as the resistance is strong enough only to ambush Russian expeditionary forces, rather than attacking the Russian troops in their bases.

What the resistance lacks, according to M Roy, is not so much weapons as such, which at the infantry level are quite plentiful, but training in how to use them effectively. This is something which the Russians never have any qualms about providing for those "liberation movements" that they support. It is surely time for those who claim to support the cause of Afghan liberation to take a leaf out of their book.

strength expressed by their own trade unions. But improvements in wages and working conditions only go so far.

While racial policies continue to underpin the economic and social mistreatment of the majority of South Africans the need to treat South Africa as an outcast from the civilised world community remains overwhelming. A modest step in the right direction would be to make the codes of practice legally enforceable, but ultimately it is the people of South Africa who will decide their own destiny, not well-wishers from outside.

Yours sincerely,
HERMAN REBHAN,
General Secretary, International Metalworkers' Federation,
Route des Acacias 54 bis,
CH-1227 Geneva,
Switzerland.

Guerrilla movements

From Dr Harold Blakemore
Sir, Malcolm Deas's put-down of Latin American guerrilla movements (feature, March 3) has in it a

good deal of truth. They are undoubtedly ideologically confused, inchoate, only sporadically successful and have to contend with what he rightly underlines, the natural propensity of most people anywhere to prefer stability to disorder, certainty to confusion, peace to war.

But they exist and, so far as I am aware, in that continent they tend to grow rather than diminish. There was no Sendero Luminoso in Peru a few years ago: it is now quite a threat to the established order. The situation in El Salvador is currently not one which would lead one to believe that guerrilla movements are not without popular support.

What he does not discuss - a cardinal omission - is why they are there at all. Marxists would tell him that the visible bit of the iceberg, which, by noting, they might avoid, is not really the problem: it is the great mass beneath the surface which causes titanic destruction.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD BLAKEMORE,
43 Fitzjohn Avenue,
Barnet,
Hertfordshire.
March 7.

No winners if NEDC is destroyed

From Sir Geoffrey Chandler

Sir, In his article, "The Neddy we don't need" (March 2), Mr Graham Mather makes common cause with the far left - though presumably from the opposite corner - in wishing to be rid of the National Economic Development Council.

Of his three quotations chosen to indicate disenchantment with the NEDC, one, taken from an address of mine to the Royal Society of Arts, is selective to the point of distortion: that from Mr William Rodgers is some years old; Sir Richard O'Brien's quoted words have been severed from a suggestion of how to make the council work better.

Insofar as the article contains facts, most are wrong. It is untrue to say that the TUC has threatened to withdraw at "every serious disagreement" since 1979. The running conflict on policy between TUC and Government has been within the trade union movement a deep division of opinion about remaining on the NEDC. This was reflected neither in "bluff" nor "blackmail", but in debate at the 1982 TUC conference in which a motion to withdraw was defeated by a significant majority who argued the case for the necessity of dialogue on grounds which are even more relevant today in the light of the Government's reelection.

The "unpublished NEDC report", farcically misused in the election campaign, was far from being "unrecognisable to most industrialists". This factual comparative analysis of British industrial performance (now published with the blessing of all the NEDC members) was all too recognisable at a time when such recognition was seen as politically sensitive by the CBI.

Trouble at tribunals

From Mr Don Mathew

Sir, There is much sound common sense, together with an appreciation of the need for a fair and equitable overview of road schemes, in your robust editorial (March 2) concerning public inquiries. How correct you are in stating that "the inspectorial terms of reference need to be wider, to admit the broad picture of traffic and transport in the capital; the Government's case for a new road deserves the fullest exposition."

How much more inept and thoroughly alarming, therefore, is the extraordinary discussion paper produced by the National Economic Development Office, which suggests that "to prepare in particular for the possibility of an enlarged road-building programme in London the Department of Transport should consider what changes (legislative or otherwise) could be made to ensure that decisions on road, strategy and broad alignment are taken by the Secretary of State for Transport and Parliament, leaving only matters of detailed routing and the effect on property for consideration at the public inquiry."

Taken together with its elitist assumptions and incorrect conclusions this document would be an unflattering recipe for the very disorder and delay it laments, the more extreme elements of which you so rightly deplore. The closing date for comments is March 20. I urge your readers to state their views known so that a disastrous course of restricting objectors' rights is not embarked upon.

Yours sincerely,
DON MATHEW,
Friends of the Earth Limited,
377 City Road, EC1.
March 6.

On and off the record

From the Reverend Dr Anthony Bird

Sir, The question of patients' rights to read and contribute to their own medical records is receiving increasing publicity and attention.

There is a general practice in this country, for several years, it has been standard procedure for receptionists to hand patients their records on entering the waiting room. The point of this is to encourage those who wish to familiarize themselves with their medical histories.

Only in a few cases (no more than 0.5 per cent of the total) are records "taboo" in the patient's interest, usually so that particular contents can be discussed and interpreted before being encountered in bare print.

This facility of access to records is much used by patients, invariably appreciated and frequently helpful to them and their practitioners as a basis for learning more about health.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY BIRD,
93 Bonbrink Road,
Birmingham.

Poland and the West

From Professor Robin Kemball

Sir, Like other West European commentators, George Walden (feature, February 8) chides Mr Shultz for calling in question the legitimacy of the present political set-up in Eastern Europe, dismissing his remarks as "a pointless exorcism of Soviet neuroses" which "may make the Poles of Chicago feel good, but ... won't do much for those in Warsaw".

Both assumptions seem equally questionable. To the luckless Poles, struggling for that self-determination which is supposed to be the inherent right of every nation, few things are more heartening than such periodic (albeit far too rare) reminders that the West has forgotten neither them, nor the fact that their present plight stems solely from the continued refusal of the USSR to fulfil the commitment, freely entered into at Yalta, in common with Britain and the USA, to the organisation in Poland of "free and unfettered elections ... on the basis of universal suffrage and secret ballot". Had such elections been held and

which sought and obtained its postponement.

The NEDC is not intended for "corporate macro-economic management", its participants are politically mature enough to know that such management lies with the government of the day. But it has been the only vehicle for dialogue between Government and TUC over the past four and a half years (and indeed between CBI and TUC) and often the only forum in which the condition and needs of industry have been consistently and objectively presented.

It is always likely to be true that the NEDC's reality will be less than its potential, because in it are inevitable focused those influences in our society and politics, not least a distaste for independent criticism, which have contributed to our relative industrial failure. But it remains the only institution whose deliberate aim is to modify those influences.

The TUC's decision to boycott council meetings for the time being may be understandable in the light of Government's handling of GCHQ, but it is also a self-inflicted wound of potentially very serious dimensions.

If the political extremes are now allowed to gather and destroy the NEDC history is likely to show this whole episode, not as victory in the battle of GCHQ, but as the loss of an irreplaceable instrument in the war for industrial recovery - a recovery without which GCHQ will be of little importance to our role in the world.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY CHANDLER,
57 Blackheath Park, SE3.
March 9.

Unemployment cycle

From Mr Francis W. Adey

Sir, May I offer my own explanation for the "jobless trend perplexing Whitehall" (The Times, March 2)?

The "number of unemployed" is in actuality the number of men registered for work at Jobcentres. Registration is no longer compulsory and indeed lapses after three months unless the registrant stipulates otherwise. It is safe to assume, then that in a time of poor job prospects the "number of unemployed" will fall automatically as applicants become too pessimistic to re-register.

In stage two of the scenario the media publicise the "improvement" in the employment situation (caused, in reality, by the phenomenon described above). Thousands of men, reading the good news, decide that the game may be worth the candle after all and trot back to their Jobcentres to re-register. Result: unemployment figures "up" again; media gloom; despondency in Jobcentres; registrations begin to lapse again.

I imagine the cycle will repeat itself every six months.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS W. ADEY,
Flat 2,
41 Allen Road,
Wolverhampton,
West Midlands.
March 7.

Countryside heritage

From Mr Richard Meynell

Sir, Mr Grove asserts (March 6) that Commander Marten (February 25) has been badly misled, and that the system of taxation and grants "subsidises softwood production and destroys the beautiful and usable hardwood heritage which still remains".

Good emotive stuff, but, fortunately, totally unrelated to the facts!

Firstly, the tax legislation does not discriminate between hardwoods and softwoods, with the important exception of schedule 9, Finance Act 1975, which provides a strong incentive both for the retention of existing hardwood stands for long rotations, and for the establishment of new hardwood stands rather than softwood as the final crop, when softwood conditions permit.

Secondly, Forestry Commission grants are specifically aimed in favour of the establishment of hardwoods.

These are matters not of subjective judgement, but of fact. It would seem, therefore, that it is not Commander Marten but Mr Grove who has been badly misled. I hope that he is now happily enlightened.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MEYNELL,
Berry Hall,
Horningham,
Norfolk.
March 7.

Still concern over detention proposal

From Professor Leonard Leigh and others

Sir, We are individuals of differing political opinions and professional roles who welcome the changes to the detention provisions of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill set out in the minister's letter (February 22). However, a magistrate's court review every 36 hours does not make detention for 96 hours acceptable, if only because the defence will not be in a position to successfully challenge the detention at that stage.

Detention of individuals who are suspected of a serious offence for 96 hours is not only an extension of police powers under English law, but is longer than the comparable provisions in any other common law country.

The countries which have adopted common law derived from the English system ensure that detention is reviewed by the courts within 24 hours or "as soon as practicable". Long periods of detention have not been established as necessary to detect serious crime.

However, there are well known cases (such as the Confit case) where false confessions have been obtained after inappropriate treatment or oppressive questioning during police detention. Long periods of detention are undesirable in a free society. It is in the interests of the community as a whole that the risk of false confession is minimised because of the danger that the innocent will be convicted and the guilty go free.

Until a recent Divisional Court decision there was no established right to detain for questioning in order to obtain evidence under English law. Neither should there be. The prospect of individuals, who are

in law innocent until proven guilty, being interrogated in a police station for 96 hours without access to a lawyer for the first 36 hours is unacceptable in a humane and democratic society and entails transferring the process which should be carried out openly in a court of law to behind closed doors in a police station.

The eventual introduction of tape recordings in police stations will not be an adequate safeguard - even the Government guidelines allow questioning before the tape machine is switched on.

The minister states that without such longer periods of detention the police investigation would have to be broken off and detained persons set free after 24 or 36 hours. This ignores the alternative that they should be charged and brought before a court without delay.

Objections are being raised to this part of the Bill from lawyers in respect of the length of detention and from doctors in respect of intimate body searches. We are convinced that the Government should now withdraw this part of the Bill for substantial redrafting, which will better serve the interests of justice, the interests of the community and preserve the traditional liberties of the British people.

Yours faithfully,
LEONARD LEIGH (Department of Law, London School of Economics),
TIM STEPHENSON (General Secretary, British Association of Social Workers),
ANDREW ASHWORTH (Centre for Criminological Research, Oxford),
c/o Worcester College, Oxford.
March 8.

Making a 'clean break'

From Dr Alexina M. McWhinnie

Sir, The financial position of women who divorce in their fifties requires urgent consideration before the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, with its provision for a "clean break" after divorce, reaches the statute book without any real debate about the serious implications of the shift in matrimonial law implied.

As I described in your leader of February 16, women are disadvantaged in the labour market and increasingly so in an era of high unemployment. They are doubly disadvantaged if they have a break in employment to bring up a family.

At the period when most husbands are making important progress in their careers and the expectation is that the family will be mobile to accommodate or achieve this, women are settling for no paid work or part-time work in the locality of their home to suit husband's and children's needs.

If, at a later stage, the marriage breaks up (and there are an increasing number of divorces in this age group) the choices facing women are, as every worker in a Citizens' Advice Bureau knows, appalling. The prospect is often of no job, no prospect of a job, no pension in her own right and yet still having to provide the home base for a grown-up family.

Even with maintenance provisions her lot is a poor one, even worse if her husband should die. Having contributed as a homemaker to the joint income of the family over many years, she has no rights to widow's superannuation. These matters and a study of what really happens after divorce need detailed consideration by a Government commission before the new Bill becomes law because there is a real danger that the case for "clean break" provisions for younger husbands and wives will override the proper rights of older women who have served their families well in the traditional role of homemaker.

Yours sincerely,
ALEXINA M. MCWHINNIE,
10 Temple Close,
Wheatley, Oxford.
March 7.

Apathy over Ulster

From Mr Gordon M. L. Smith

Sir, Mr Hugo Morgan-Grenville (March 6) welcomes the sincere initiative of Dr Garret Fitzgerald in setting up the new Ireland Forum, but the apparent apathy of the media to its debates is understandable because it has not yet proposed any new action or new interpretation of Ireland's tragedy.

When Mr Kinock was asked in America what his policy was on Northern Ireland, he sensibly replied in nine words: "I am in favour of peace in Northern Ireland." The probability is that the forum in due course will make a similar recommendation, in line with official policy in the republic, which is to work towards a peaceful united Ireland, by consent of everyone concerned. This consent will not, of course, be forthcoming from the Protestants.

It is not apathy which keeps this sort of thing out of the press, it is simply that it is not newsworthy. If the New Ireland Forum were to come up with some constructive ideas, such as they are sincerely trying to find, which could be acceptable both in Dublin and Belfast, they would certainly hit the headlines.

It is a pity that the final paragraph of Mr Morgan-Grenville's otherwise carefully reasoned letter consists of a blatantly untrue statement. He writes that unless the British Government "takes the lead" (whatever that may mean) in trying to solve the tragedy it is they who will be responsible for future deaths. That is not so. The responsibility rests squarely on the IRA and their American backers.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON M. L. SMITH,
44 Devonshire Street, W1.

Curbs on kerb-crawlers

From Mr Graham Bright, MP for Luton, South (Conservative)

Sir, The confidence placed by your report (February 24) in the Justices of the Peace Act of 1361 as a deterrent to kerb-crawling is mistaken. It is the absence of an appropriate modern law to prevent men accosting women for sexual services in return of payment that has forced the police to use this antiquated legal machinery. What is now needed is a carefully worded Act of Parliament to define this specific offence.

I am bound to say that simply confining the offence to the drivers of motor vehicles or their passengers might leave an unwelcome loophole. In Luton and other towns perfectly respectable areas have been converted into the haunts of prostitutes and kerb-crawlers have appeared to the distress of residents and of the women living there in particular.

The police have acted to clean these areas up, but they need twentieth-century legislation to help them complete the task.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM BRIGHT,
House of Commons.
March 2.

Against the grain

From Mr E. S. Sawday

Sir, With reference to Mr O'Brien's letter (March 8) some facts might be useful.

Some 10 years ago Brent geese were put on the protected list as they were in danger of becoming extinct. Up to then it had been quite in order to shoot them and my wildfowl friends tell me they were quite good to eat.

Since then their numbers have increased astronomically, far more than can be fed on their natural water weeds. Hence, at this time, some 9,000 birds are grazing various crops - i.e. - barley, wheat and grass causing considerable loss of income to the farmers around Chichester Harbour.

I am one of the farmers involved and have spent most of the winter patrolling the farm (almost every hour) to keep a flock of some 3,000 birds on the move and Mr O'Brien's letter makes sense to me.

However, there must be considerable thought before any action can be taken. Do we, for instance, let this build-up of birds go unchecked and have to lay aside more and more acres for their feeding? There are already indications that the optimum number has been passed and the birds are at self-starvation level.

This must be conservation gone mad. If we are to have Brent geese, then let us decide on the number to keep and let us have some more attractive well-fed geese rather than the scrawny creatures there now are. Yours faithfully,
E. S. SAWDAY,
Auldram Manor Farm,
Chichester, Sussex.

problem can be found which fails to take account of the true situation and its antecedents. If this problem constitutes a permanent danger to world peace (as it does) this is simply because, high on 40 years after Yalta, the Polish people are still deprived of their innate right to self-determination. Supposed Soviet susceptibilities (a pure figment of the Western "liberal" imagination) are in fact part and parcel of a deliberate *mise en scene*, a cynically calculated policy aimed at stifling all discussion of unwelcome topics.

"Pointless exacerbation" does not enter into it. What is pointless is to set about "reducing the causes of tension in Europe" whilst steadfastly ignoring, from whatever motives, this first of all causes.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your faithful, obedient servant,
ROBIN KEMBALL,
Université de Lausanne,
Faculté des Lettres,
Section des Langues Slaves,
Batiment central,
Dorigny,
CH-1015 Lausanne,
Switzerland.

Morality and Mammon

From Mr Herman Rebhan

Sir, David Watt (feature, February 24) is quite wrong to say that the EEC and Sullivan codes of practice for European and American firms operating in South Africa do not emphasize training and promotion prospects.

Both codes explicitly call on companies to initiate and develop "training programmes that will prepare, in substantial numbers, blacks and other non-whites for supervisory, administrative, clerical and technical jobs", to quote the Sullivan code.

The codes' ineffectiveness lies in the fact that they are not enforceable and that the governments scarcely bother to monitor them.

The problem of training is not, in any case, to be resolved at workplace level. How can it when the young South African black enjoys read 91 per year in government support for education while the South African white enjoys read 169?

Where advances have been made for black working people in recent years it has been through their own

THE ARTS

Television
Jungle
fantasies

In *Terror and the State* (Granada), a group of Americans were to be seen discussing what they would not doubt call a "scenario". Slim Egerton, vice-president of the Nickleton Corporation, has been kidnapped by a people's liberation movement in the South American country of Evina. How would one deal with the situation, except to advise both the man and the country to change their names? This Toytown situation became the occasion for a number of serious-looking people (all men, as it happened) in serious-looking suits to respond in a serious way to the questions of a sombre moderator. For some reason, it was much less comforting than they themselves must imagine. Most of the world's troubles are created by such men, and one received the impression of a not particularly smart group simply humbling through all the time they employed a quasi-official vocabulary in order to render their actions logical, or at least reasonable, when it was clear that they were working on a modified version of the law of the jungle.

The format itself might seem absurd, if it were not for the fact that such dramatic pre-constructions are quite usual in civil and military establishments. Perhaps the participants derive more pleasure from these theatrical events than they do from the actual crises themselves, since these seminars are reacting to controlled events when the real actions they may have to confront are, of their nature, less predictable. Terrorists are not television producers - or at least not often. As an exercise in drama, or even in governmental public relations, it was entertaining but its relation to the actual world remained somewhat obscure.

Nevertheless, some interesting issues were raised - not least the fact that, with the inclusion of men like Alexander Haig and James Schlesinger, the programme offered some introduction to the mechanics of power. The happy land of Evina was clearly about to be ripped apart by the combined efforts of the American corporations, the CIA and the administration. These organizations were happy to work together, without the approval or even the knowledge of their host country. As Haig put it, "There's always counter-leverage and, generally speaking, it's primarily on the side of the United States". Despite the limitations of the exercise, the next three programmes may be equally illuminating.

Peter Ackroyd

Galleries: John Russell Taylor in Paris

Strident claims to greatness

Bonnard/Images et
Imaginaires
d'Architecture
Centre PompidouWilliam Bouguereau
Petit PalaisJean Cocteau et les Arts
Plastiques
Pavillon des ArtsL'Empire du Bureau
Musée des Arts Décoratifs

Imposition for an art critic: Write out 50 times "I must not compare Bonnard with Vuillard. I must not..." A very proper lesson, but not one easy to take to heart. The trouble is that they make such obvious stalking-horses for each other. Friends, contemporaries and intimist celebrators of domestic felicity, they compare so naturally, and thus help us to place them both in the hierarchy of twentieth-century art. Which is especially necessary in the case of Bonnard, Vuillard, by fairly general consent, is a model *petit maître*; Bonnard might just turn out to be in the major league. That he is certainly seems to be implied by his inclusion in the Beaubourg series of exhibitions "Classiques du XX^e Siècle", along with Pollock, Klein and Balthus. But looking round the show itself, which continues at the Centre Pompidou until May 21, then goes to Washington and Dallas, one finds it impossible not to wonder about that.

If Vuillard is felt to be a second-class artistic citizen because of the limited nature of his subject-matter, and his apparent contentment with painting a little piece of ivory in an inch square, what are we to make of Bonnard? The immediate impression is of about three recurrent subjects: nude women in or around baths, self-portraits and views of corners of the painter's house or garden. That is, of course, not quite true; some of the most striking pictures in the show are outside these three types (perhaps that is why they strike us); the extraordinary *Piazza del Popolo* of 1922, with its disquieting purplish Fauve colouring, or the monumental *Promenade en Mer* of 1924, the long evolution of which is the subject of a detailed essay in the large and glamorous catalogue, or, for a different reason, *Le Cimetière sous la neige*, in which one of the familiar scenes is magically transformed by a dusting of snow.

But that brings me to another problem I have with Bonnard: his sense of colour. Whereas Vuillard is a master, even in his grandest compositions, of an exquisitely delicate palette, Bonnard seems to me often merely strident. It is not the dash and dazzle of the early Fauves, but a tendency to suffuse each

Cocteau on safe and sure ground: detail from *Mystère de Jean l'Oiseleur*

picture with its dominant - and often, not very appealing - shade, so that you seem to be looking at the subject through a cloud of bouillabaisse yellow or acid green or shocking pink. A sure sign of trouble in any painter, the paintings often look better in reproduction than in the original.

Needless to say, many of those who make the largest claim for Bonnard hold that it is precisely this ability to alarm and set the teeth on edge which marks him as a major painter, while Vuillard's immaculate taste somehow diminishes him. It all depends, I suppose, on what you are looking for. Agreed, Bonnard's drawings and graphics are masterly, and some of his painted images, like the various versions of the woman stretched out in a bath right across the canvas, are unforgettable. But I cannot altogether repress the unsuitable (and peculiarly English) thought that, when his work might be turning my mind towards, say, Van Gogh, I find instead images of John Bratby.

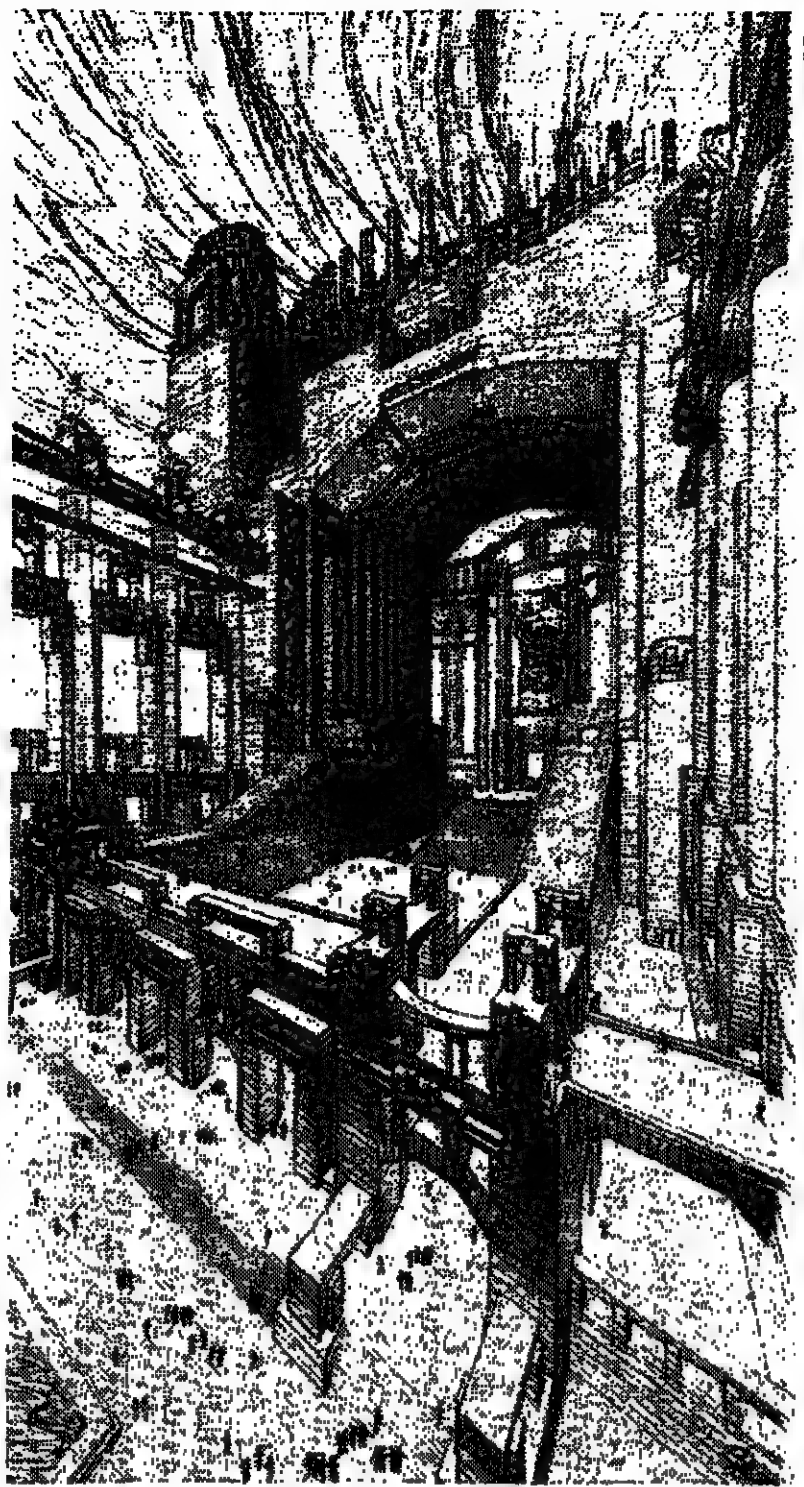
At least there is no doubt that Bonnard is a good and important painter: the only question is how good and how important. With William Bouguereau, who is being given his first (and possibly his last) major retrospective at the Petit Palais until May 6, there is comfortably no question: he turns out to be uniformly and unspeakably awful. He could draw, admittedly, but then so could anyone with halfway decent academic training at the time. Beyond that it is difficult to decide on what is worst: his soppy, saccharine saints and

martyrs gazing heavenward, his smirking peasant-girls against what look like so many studio-photographer's backdrops, or his Bacchanalian revellers going into their dance with all the lascivious abandon of the local operatic-and-dramatic negotiating the cachaucha out of *The Gondoliers*.

His later work, the "horrid" works like *Dante et Virgile aux Enfers* (Gianni Schicci enthusiastically bring Capocchio's neck for all eternity) are perhaps marginally better, but not enough to matter. And the really astonishing thing is that some of the most offensively chocolate-box alleged country scenes date from the late 1890s, and never by a flicker acknowledge the existence of Impressionism and Post-Impressionism, or even Bastien-Lepage. A painter then did not need to be influenced, but that he could just react in no way whatever was truly signing his own immediate consignment to the realm of the quaint and the camp.

Camp Cocteau may sometimes have been, especially as a graphic artist, where he never seems to have taken himself all that seriously (he knew Picasso well enough to realize he could never be in the same league). But the big show Jean Cocteau et les Arts Plastiques at the Pavillon des Arts in Les Halles until May 6 is, given its almost complete lack of pretention, a very pleasant surprise. Naturally there are the repeated images of his various boy-friends, who tend, with rare exceptions, all to look alike, striving towards his very precise physical ideal. But the early pencil portraits of members of the Apollinaire circle show at once that he could draw better than any writer has a right to, and his later easel paintings, murals and illustrations (the major part of the show dates from the Fifties, which were evidently his painting years) benefit at least from his clear awareness of his own limitations and unwillingness to step outside them. His pet myths - Orpheus, Oedipus, the unicorn - do recur, but he manages to ring the changes on them to great effect, and the show also includes ceramics, tapestries and, in place of the usual audio-visual, one of his own rare films, *Santo Spirito* (about the Weisweiler villa he decorated) and Edgardo Cozarinsky's immaculate *Jean Cocteau - autoportrait d'un Inconnu*. This show was certainly worth prolonging (as the organizers defensively put it) last year's centenary celebrations for.

Such of the top floor of the Centre Pompidou as is not occupied by Bonnard is given over to a show from the other side, the Centre de Création Industrielle, entitled *Images et Imaginaires D'Architecture* (until May 28). This, like all their shows, is multidisciplinary and impossible to describe in one neat formula. So much the better, as it constantly makes you think and turn the subject-matter over and over in your mind. Roughly, it is about the fantastic side of architecture since 1826, but it includes documentary material on fantastic buildings (exposition architecture, shops and displays, mad

Fantastical view of the functional: Carl Zehnder's *Projet de hall avec escaliers et monument* (1913)

projects, Nazi and Communist architecture meant to convey a political message in larger-than-life terms) as well as artists' fantasized views of quite functional buildings, stage and film settings, science fiction and comic strips. One can always argue that this or that piece does not fit in with the rest, but the resulting whirlwind tour of the nineteenth and twentieth-century mind in relation to the idea of building can hardly help being a real eye-opener.

The same is true, in a quieter way, of *L'Empire du Bureau* at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs until May 14. Devised as a context for the winners in a recent competition to design the office of the future, this show too is concerned with images. It leads up to

the year 2000 with a superb anthology of furniture and fittings designed for offices and studies since 1900, including practically every important furniture designer you can think of, and a lot of period typewriters and other office machines. It also uses the visions of painters and photographers to recreate the idea of the office, from saucy Belle Époque postcards to secretaries showing their knickers to an exceptional display of that supreme poet of the office, Edward Hopper. Another eye-opener which finds enchantment and mystery in a very workaday subject, and demonstrates yet again that, when it comes to putting a show together as a work of art in its own right, the French have very few rivals.

Dance
PoignantPetrushka
Congress, Eastbourne

For the first time, Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet has taken on *Petrushka*, a work that set for almost 20 years (but only 76 performances) in the repertoire of the other Royal Ballet at Covent Garden, waiting vainly for someone to breathe life into its careful correctness. Not for the first time, the more theatrical approach of the touring company has worked wonders.

John Auld supervised the staging, his main aim apparently being to make the crowd scenes more animated - which he does pretty well except for one interpolation, a visual dirty joke that would surely have shocked Fokine and Benois, two of the ballet's creators, if not necessarily Stravinsky, the last-named incidentally, is decently served by an augmented orchestra playing the 1947 version of the score.

The opening performances at Eastbourne brought two interpretations of the title part, Alain Dubreuil's is better than average, but David Bintley's is far and away the best I have seen by any British dancer. What is extraordinary is not just the feeling and intelligence he brings to the role (some of his predecessors had those qualities) but the physical embodiment he gives the puppet in his dancing.

He actually shows you, physically, the fancies that are always read into the ballet. Every movement is done as if a great unseen hand held him by the back of his shirt between the shoulder-blades. His head lolls slightly forward, his arms flail as though the wooden hands were heavier than the stuffed sleeves; even in his liveliest moments the feet seem to shuffle quickly as if hanging to the ground instead of supporting him.

The most astonishing thing is that every time he falls, which happens several times in the ballet, he flops to the ground (sometimes jerking first into the air) exactly as though the invisible puppet-master had dropped him. It is almost frightening to watch, and makes the little spark of determination in his face even more poignant.

Among the other characters, Carl Myers as the Blackamoor, Desmond Kelly as the old showman and Nicola Katrak as the ballerina doll are notable. Small parts like the drunken young merchant and the gypsy girls who get their claws into him come off better than usual. The ballet goes next to Bristol and Birmingham, then Sadler's Wells next month.

John Percival

The career of thriller writer came late, and none too easily, to Anthony Melville-Ross (right), but this week brings his sixth book, *Shadow*: interview by Caroline Moorehead

Fiction with
a secret life
all its own

Why is the popular image of the successful thriller writer one of ease and glamour? The very pace of the action, the super-fidelity of the characters, suggest words produced without pain in pleasurable surroundings. Anthony Melville-Ross, much-praised author of a succession of seemingly effortless spy and naval thrillers, is proof of the absurdity of that picture. For him books are work: seven days a week, 10 am to 7.30 pm a day, a book a year, ground out in a bare, neat room at the top of a house in Lewes, at a table with photographs of his wife Marcia, once a model, under glass under the type-writer.

"It's as well I like writing", he says. "At least it beats the hell out of commuting." There is a decorous Burmese cat and a view from the window across the Sussex Downs.

Melville-Ross came to books very late. The grandson of an American archaeologist killed by a poisoned Indian arrow in South America, and son of a pioneering aviator, he joined the Navy in 1939 straight from school and "to show off" went into submarines in 1941.

After 1945 he stayed on, failing as a teacher of cadets, but volunteering to learn Polish when the Navy decided to train men in Slavonic languages. He

got posted to Warsaw as assistant to the naval attaché. "Attaches are supposed to poke around. I can't say much about all that. But I got the heave-ho after 13 months." The naval language, the tone, clipped, public-school, survive.

Then came a setback. "I got the twitches. Nine years at sea, in submarines too long, the tensions of intelligence work." A sympathetic commander had him invalided out of the Navy with a disability pension. The nervousness, he says, remains; he cannot make speeches, appear on television or lecture. It might have been a terrible moment, with thousands like him in search of work and finding themselves as secretaries of local golf clubs. Instead, he was lucky, and British Petroleum took him on to run oil exploration projects in South America and North Africa. Libya, he says, was "wicked". "Gaddafi wasn't there. And the Mediterranean was still a super place and not a sewer."

In his late forties, however, Melville-Ross came to feel that "ignorance was showing at the seams. My peers had joined BP in 1938 and stayed there for the war as it was a reserved occupation. I had less education, less experience. I could have served out my time.

Instead, having picked up and discarded a million thrillers at airports and railway stations, I thought I'd have a bash at writing. I had a feeling I could do them better." While writing, in order to live Melville-Ross became a model, his clean, spruce, boating looks and bright blue eyes ideal for Austin Reed, whisky and executives at work. It was not exactly fun, but it paid, and, when not catching an early flight to Hamburg or hanging around studios for television ads, Melville-Ross kept writing. It was not immediately successful. Two publishers turned down the first completed story, *Blindfold*.

But then he had the good fortune to be introduced to Martha Gellhorn, who knew not just about writing but, as a devourer of thrillers herself, about spies. The revised version was taken up by Collins and since then there have been no pauses.

Melville-Ross's sixth book, *Shadow*, appears this week. Like its two immediate predecessors, *Trigger* and *Talon* (how to name new submarines belonging to that class defeated even Churchill, who fell back on Talleyho and Trump), it is about the Second World War, and villainy and heroism on the sea bed.

"All my writing is semi-fic-

tionalized autobiography", Melville-Ross explains. "Seventy-five percent of the incidents did actually happen to me. To avoid 'the Official Secrets Act, places and dates have been transposed. That's the point of how I write: I have to know it right. I can't bear errors." Only once has he had need to consult a library: to check the spelling of a Japanese ship.

The momentum has been sustained for six years. The problem now, he knows, is how to gear the process upwards, how to move from successful writer, with 100,000 loans from public libraries last year and steady paperback sales, to bestselling star, the books turned into Hollywood movies. More immediately, though, is the awkward question of what direction to literal an interpreter of fact into fiction should take.

"A cloak and dagger trilogy, a submarine quartet" (he is at work on a sequel to *Shadow*) - even I don't think I can keep writing "Up the periscope" much longer. The oil business as I knew it - deals over extraction rights with Arab rulers - is not a very gripping background. So where do I go? Doubtfully, he adds: "It might be fun to let my hair down. Imagine something. But I should feel wicked doing it."

Concerts
Exquisite traceryRPO/Kasprzyk
Festival Hall/Radio 3

Interesting: a much bigger crowd - it looked practically a sell-out - for the RPO's Prokofiev, Chopin and Stravinsky on Sunday than for the GLC's own eminently safe, heavily publicized programme of English classics the previous evening. Perhaps the attraction was Krystian Zimerman playing Chopin's Second Piano Concerto: his restrained aristocratic playing has proved both alluring and musical on record, but in the concert hall I found it curiously pale.

The touch was always delicate, the sounds ineffably beautiful, the decorations strung out like pearls - but I am sure there is more toughness to Chopin than this. It ought to be possible to make the lines sing as Zimerman does, without ignoring quite so many of the sforzandos and fortes, without reducing inner parts to a murmur and stretching out the rhythms so that all impetus disappears. Only in the central, impassioned unisons of the slow movement did he really create tension: the rest was exquisite tracery.

Perhaps the sense of rhythms

Jorge Bolet
Barbican

Subtle colours that were more a question of the balance between Jorge Bolet's hands than of separate accents on Sunday reminded one that serious performances of Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata are rare. This was true not only of the overly famous first movement but also of the finale. However one expected speed and weight, but not a resolute clarity which, in the event, suggested the pianos of the composer's own day without any sacrifice of present realities.

This performance, romantic in both its individuality and independence from settled conventions of Beethoven interpretation, was an apt prelude to an evening of Chopin and Liszt. Chopin's Barcarole was at first understated. Then, in a fascinating display of gradualism, the watercolours turned into oils. After this ultimate expression of the nocturnal side of Chopin's world a selection of

his Etudes was particularly bracing.

Even here, though, our pianist showed himself a master of the unexpected, beginning with Op 25 No 1, which is essentially a play of colours. With Op 10 No 3 it was back to the nocturnal world, although not before Op 25 No 2 had interposed its gossamer web. Then Mr Bolet again cheated our assumptions by playing not the expected C sharp minor Etude, Op 10 No 4, but the following G flat piece. All these, and others, were done with a long-matured mastery which at some points seemed to offer sophisticated commentaries on the works rather than the works themselves.

After an account of Chopin's Ballade No 1 that was as remarkable for its coolly judged proportions as for its poetic fire, came Liszt's Ballade No 2. Even less easy to forget, however, will be the spiritual insight of the "Benediction de Dieu dans la Solitude", which took us beyond piano playing, almost beyond music.

Max Harrison

London debuts
Spacious poetic sense

Philip Thompson, a young Canadian pianist, set himself an enormous challenge with a virtuosic programme of Scarlatti, Chopin, Ravel and Liszt. But his fingers found the notes with seemingly minimal effort, so that the maturity of his musicianship was allowed to emerge as the dominating feature. Ravel's *Gaspard de la nuit*, for example, was played with a spacious sense of poetry. All those technical fireworks glowed with the gentleness of stars, so that the mischief of "Scarbo" was puckish rather than frantic and the sinister "Le Gibet" resonated in a frightening infinity.

Mr Thompson did equally magical things with Liszt's brief, mysterious "In festo transfigurationis Domini nostri Jesu Christi", never allowing the strange harmonies here the warmth that had pervaded his earlier Chopin group. Liszt's

"Pensées des morts" and "Funérailles" were both aptly grave and magnificent, while the pianist clearly relished the soaring cantabile of the same composer's transcription of Schumann's "Widmung".

The American violinist Charles Libove, who was accompanied by his wife, Nina Lugovskaya, is an accomplished virtuoso whose approach is unrelentingly resolute. His reading of Beethoven's stormy C minor Sonata, Op 30 No 2, was peppered with extravagances, but nevertheless his tone is rich and his vibrato alluringly generous, perhaps too much so for Copland's bland Sonata of 1943. Dohnanyi's C sharp Sonata, Op 21, also came across as merely workaday music, though again the fault did not lie with the performers.

Stephen Pettitt

Royal
Opera
HouseThe
Royal
Ballet

Rhapsody

A ballet inspired by wit, virtuosity and lyricism set to Rachmaninov's popular Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini.

Enigma Variations

Aston's affectionate response to Elgar's most popular score.

Les Noces

Nijinska's masterpiece - set to a brilliant Stravinsky score.

March 15, 16, 24, April 4, 18 at 7.30pm

La Bayadère

A breathtaking display of classical drama.

Midsummer

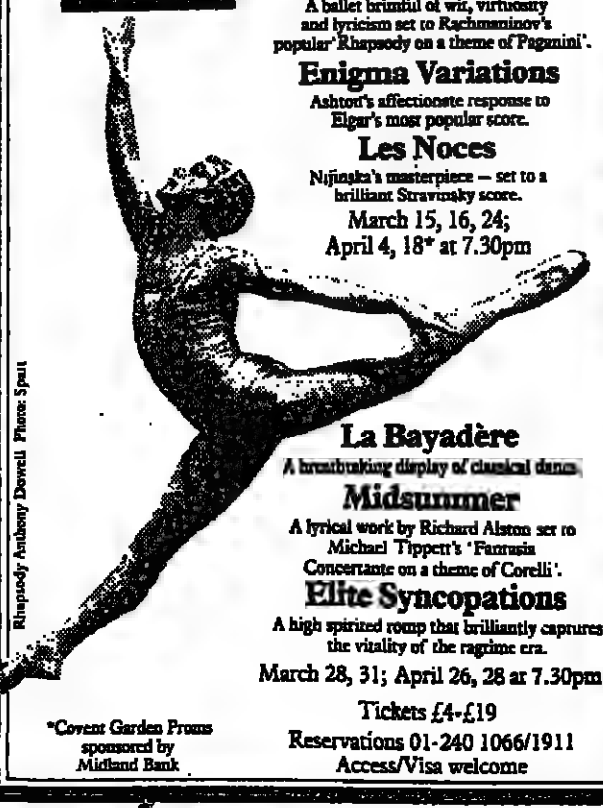
A lyrical work by Richard Adams set to Michael Tippett's 'Fantasia Concertante on a theme of Corelli'.

Elle Syncopations

A high spirited romp that brilliantly captures the vitality of the ragtime era.

March 28, 31, April 26, 28 at 7.30pm

Tickets £4-£19

Reservations 01-240 1066/1911
Access/Visa welcome



STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Gilts lead the way

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 12. Dealings End March 23. Contango Day, March 26. Settlement Day, April 2.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	83.43 (83.14)
FIXED INTEREST	87.28 (87.14)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	844.1 (840.9)
GOLD MINES	697.9 (711.7)
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD	4.36% (4.20%)
EARNINGS YIELD	9.36% (9.42%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.83 (12.84)
P.E. RATIO (GROSS)	12.13 (12.06)
FTSE	1063.5 (1060.1)
	High 1065.2 Low 1058.8

BRITISH FUNDS

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COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

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BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

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COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

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COMMODITIES

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MONEY MARKETS

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

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DOLLAR SPOT RATES

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OTHER MARKETS

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EURO-DEPOSITS

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COMMODITIES

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RECENT ISSUES

Domestic Grp	136	+10	5.4	2.8	4.9
Primer Corp	574	0	0	0	42.3
Procter & Gamble	100	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0
Reynolds	134	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0
Royal Dutch	234	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0
Shell	132	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0
Texas Inc	132	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0
Unilever	65	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0
Ultrapar	206	+10	10.0	10.0	10.0

ALLIED					
Allied Ldn	90	..	1.9	2.1	18.4
Allianz	248	10	8.9	8.9	18.8
Alkermes	69	0	0	0	18.8
Alkermes Met Gp	69	0	0	0	21.3
Brattleford Corp	282	+4	8.6	8.6	18.7
Bridges Ldn	127	0	0	0	18.7
Bristol-Myers	127	0	6.0	6.0	18.7
Cal & Countries	187	0	8.3	8.3	18.4
Chemical Bank	187	0	8.3	8.3	18.4
Church & Dwight	187	0	8.3	8.3	18.4
Churchburg	635	+10	21.7	21.7	45.8
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Barclays opens the doors of the City supermarket

The pace of change in the City has suddenly moved up a couple of gears. After some timely prodding last week by the Governor of the Bank of England, deals and promises of deals have come tumbling on top of one another.

Barclays Bank yesterday confirmed that it wanted to buy 75 per cent stakes in both Wedd Durlacher Mordaunt, the biggest stock jobber in the Stock Exchange, and de Zoete and Bevan, one of the biggest and most influential stockbroking firms. Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank in which Midland Bank has a 40 per cent holding, agreed that it is in talks with W Greenwell, another major stockbroker with an especially strong position in the gilt-edged market. The era of the City conglomerate is dawning fast.

Elsewhere in the City, Mills and Allen International whose interests include both advertising and money broking, disclosed that it has a 7.9 per cent stake, worth some £5m, in Hogg Robinson, a leading Lloyd's insurance broking group. And, as we report on this page, Clive Discount, one of the charmed circle of discount houses, intends to apply for membership of the Stock Exchange in order to job in government stock.

But it is the Barclays deal which will affect attitudes towards the marketing of financial services most profoundly. After some tentative moves by other banks, Barclays has boldly laid down a blueprint for others to follow.

Yesterday's announcement is designed partly to put down a guideline for the discussion paper which the Stock Exchange is to publish in the next few weeks. It makes the point that strong forces, both in and outside the market, are battering against the Stock Exchange rule limiting "outsiders" to a maximum of 29.9 per cent of the equity in Stock Exchange firms. It is also an unambiguous call for outsiders to be allowed to buy majority holdings in more than one member firm. Others have hinted as much: Barclays has banged the request on the table.

Change of rules

The other clearing banks are bound to follow suit: they normally do as none feels it can afford to be left behind. Not least, they will want to echo Barclays' ambition to operate a US-style discount brokerage business through their branches. Barclays already promises to plug all its customers into the stock market through a network of electronic screens and two-way key-boards at its high street branches.

That intention will not be lost on others, as yet further away from the City. If the banks are going to start retail stockbroking chains, then the big retailers must reckon they too have a chance of making a success out of similar ventures. It would fit in very neatly with Harrods, which already has a deposit-taking licence and exactly the right clientele. A model of course already exists in the United States in the formidable shape of Sears Roebuck.

A chain of in-house brokers' desks could work throughout the House of Fraser group not merely at Harrods. Debenhams, too, has a finance arm (Welbeck). Searns, owner of Selfridges and the Lewis's stores, is another possible buyer of a stockbroking business. It hasoney-handling experience through William Hill betting shops. And, for that matter there could be room for a group like Ladbroke. So far, retailers have doubted whether there would be sufficient

Leading firms still uncommitted in the City jigsaw

Stockbrokers	Stockjobbers
Buckmaster & Moore	Pinchin Denny
James Capel	S Jenkins
Capel-Cure Myers	H Rattle
Cazenove	
Fielding	Commercial banks
Newson-Smith	Bank of Scotland
Griffith and	Lloyds
Colegrave	Royal Bank of
Grieverson, Grant	Scotland
Laing & Cruickshank	Standard Charters
Laurence Prust	
Laurie Milbank	Merchant banks
L. Messel	Baring Brothers
Mullens	Brown Shipley
Panmure Gordon	Robert Fleming
Phillips & Drew	Guinness Mahon
Savory Milin	Hambros
Scott Giff Hancock	Hill Samuel
Scrivenor	Kleinwort Benson
Kemp-Gee	Lazard Brothers
Sheppard & Chase	Morgan Grenfell
Simon & Coates	Rea Brothers
Wood Mackenzie	Schroder Wagg
	Singer & Friedlander

demand; Barclays' ambition suggests that the demand could be stimulated

Sir Timothy Bavan, the chairman of Barclays, made it clear yesterday that the bank's initiatives were just the start. The links with Wedd and de Zoete "will form the core and basis for development of a powerful new international securities company", he said. Only local law, notably the American Glass-Steagall Act, stands in the way of a global one-stop finance house.

This reasoning from an international bank like Barclays must focus attention on those firms which have not as yet revealed, or have been in merger talks. As the table shows, it is becoming a quite exclusive list.

Among the banks, the most illustrious name on the list is Lloyds, the only one of the big four clearers apparently without at least a putative partner. Lloyds says only that it has put on record its intention to expand into financial services. Its corporate dignity surely demands that it must form a stock market connection before long, while there is still a reasonable range of distinguished names to choose from.

The obvious shortage now lies in the choice of uncommitted jobbers, much sought-after for their market-making ability. The other source of such ability is the discount market. But, as Barclays was quick to point out yesterday, there are grave inhibitions that make it difficult for a clearing bank to buy a significant interest in a discount house. Such a move would implicitly force a change in the rules by which the Bank of England uses the discount market, and possibly in the thinking that has persuaded the Bank to foster the market, indeed to keep it in existence.

However, change has a habit of gathering its own momentum, and that could include a change in the rules of several City markets. "At the moment we are playing cricket, but it may be that we are going to have to learn how to play baseball," said Sir Timothy. The traditional baseball players - the big US securities houses like Merrill Lynch and Goldman Sachs - will have observed that they will face much more formidable competition when they eventually gain their entry tickets to the London Stock Exchange. And that is just as Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor, intends.

Clive Discount moves into gilt-edged jobbing

By Christopher Dunn

Clive Discount, one of the most aggressive traders in short-dated gilts among the discount houses, has started jobbing in selective Government stocks. Mr Nick Chamberlain, the group's chairman and chief executive, said yesterday.

The move, a parallel development to recently banking-stockbroker link-ups like Wedd-Barclays and Greenwell-Midland, should lead to an application for Stock Exchange membership within the next year or so, and seems bound to accelerate the push towards dual capacity in City trading.

Mr Chamberlain also revealed that Clive had been talking to a number of larger institutions to establish access, if necessary to larger credit lines than its current capital base permits. A deal in the short to medium term could not be ruled out.

Clive began jobbing in gilt-edged stocks a month ago. Appropriately, the new venture started on St Valentine's Day, the house has started cautiously

and is making two-way prices in only three ultra-short stocks - Exchequer 14 per cent, 1984, Treasury 12 per cent, 1984, and Treasury 15 per cent, 1985, which are known as interest-rate stocks in the market.

But according to Mr Tony Gibson, Clive's investment director who leads the jobbing team, the discount house turned over roughly £250m in the first fortnight.

"We have started cautiously but volume has been excellent," he said.

Mr Chamberlain stated that no hostility from existing jobbers in gilts had been seen. The new venture also has Bank of England blessing, with the authorities taking a close interest in the whole experiment.

As soon as Clive feels it has sufficient expertise, it plans to extend the range of stocks in which it jobs.

"We see this as a natural extension to our business as market makers in bills and CD's, and it also fits in well



Nick Chamberlain: talking of bigger credit lines

with our growing market share, believed to be more than 5 per cent in total short-dated gilts business," said Mr Chamberlain.

"As part of our overall plan we also aim to establish direct links with institutions outside the market."

The move towards Stock Exchange membership followed naturally from the new venture since, under the existing dealing

structure, every bargain with a broker had to be booked through the jobbing system. Stock Exchange membership would eliminate this problem, as well as providing Clive with possible access to tap stocks on offer by the Government Broker.

The move towards membership of the Stock Exchange will leave Clive in a curiously hybrid position, since the house has no plans to leave the London Discount Market Association which, among other roles, undertakes to cover the Government's weekly issue of Treasury bills.

Clive Discount announced profits after transfers to hidden reserves, of £1.85m (£1.1m). Under Bank of England regulations it is allowed to hold stock up to 40 times its capital base, which last year was worth £8.1m according to published figures, which take no account of hidden reserves.

A full-scale move into short-gilt jobbing might require a substantial injection of capital, since daily turnover in short-dated gilts is currently running at some £450m.

Recovery by dollar

The dollar recovered further ground on foreign exchange markets yesterday, closing 2.65 pence higher at DM 2.6055. Dealers said the US currency was also helped by hopes of action to reduce the US budget deficit.

Sterling, still unsettled by the uncertainty over British interest rates, was pulled higher by the dollar. Although it closed 80 points down at \$1.4525, it made progress elsewhere, finishing 0.2 up at 81.0 against a basket of leading currencies.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1063.6 up 3.5 (High: 1065.2, Low: 1058.8)
Bergains: 24.603
FT Gilts: 83.43 up 0.28
FT All Share: 503.64 up 2.29
Berlins: 24.603
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1142.17 up 2.41
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,086.54 up 37.90
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 10,877.4 down 5.66
Amsterdam: 169.4 down 0.3
Sydney: AO Index 719.1 down 0.2
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 998.8 down 13.3
Brussels: General Index 142.69 down 0.12
Paris: CAC Index 159.9 down 1.2
Zurich: SKA General 300.50 down 2.50

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4525 down 80pts
Index 81.0 up 0.2
DM 2.6055 up 0.0150
FF 11.6450 up 0.0325
Yen 327.25 down 0.25
Dollar 126.4 up 0.8
DM 2.6055 up 0.0265

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.4525
Dollar DM 2.6060

INTERNATIONAL

ECU 20.590382
SDR 20.730200

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8% - 9%
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market loans week fixed 9%
3 month interbank 9 - 8 1/2%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/8% - 10 1/4%
3 month DM 5 1/8% - 5 1/4%
3 month FF 15 1/4% - 15%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/4%
Treasury long bond 9 7/8% - 9 7/16%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period February 8 to March 6, 1984 inclusive: 9.373 per cent.

Abbey to be run by industrialist

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Abbey National is appointing an outsider from industry as its new chief executive. Mr Peter Birch, managing director of Gillette UK, the cosmetics and razor blades company, will take over as chief general manager of Britain's second biggest building society on April 19.

He succeeds Mr Clive Thornton who left last year to become chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers.

Mr Birch's appointment comes as a surprise because the top executives in building societies are usually appointed from within. One previous exception is Mr Brian Holmes, chief executive of National & Provincial but he had experience in the financial world at Gresham Trust.

Mr Birch, who has been managing director of Gillette UK since 1981, worked abroad for a number of years for Gillette and has travelled widely. His career has been in marketing and general management.

He said yesterday that he would like to see building societies offering a total package for homebuyers including surveys, conveyancing and insurance and perhaps also lending money for fixtures and fittings.

He said there were similarities between marketing consumer products and financial products and believed he had been chosen by Abbey National because it wanted someone with experience of fast-moving consumer goods.

His predecessor, Mr Thornton, was a vociferous spokesman for Abbey National and considered by many to be a maverick within the movement. Mr Birch said that Abbey National had been one of the innovators and "looking to the future it will have to be even more innovative."

Shop sales rise but upward trend slips

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Business in the shops staged a modest recovery last month after a steep fall in January when trade was hit by bad weather.

Retail sales rose by just over 1 per cent to an index level of 108.9 (1980-100), 3.6 per cent higher than a year earlier, according to provisional estimates by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Trade between December and February was 0.5 per cent lower than in the previous three months, the first significant interruption to the rising trend of consumer spending in nearly two years.

But business was still 4 per cent up on 12 months earlier and most forecasters - including the Treasury which publishes its Budget predictions today - expect the buying spree to continue, though at a more relaxed pace than last year.

Less reassuring signals, in view of the Chancellor's goal of reducing inflation below the present 5 per cent, came yesterday from industry. Separate Trade and Industry figures show that prices charged by

Shell likely to win China deal

By John Lawless

Tests by Shell during the past year in the Shandong province of China have revealed substantial reserves of high quality coal and are likely to lead to a \$400m (£275.8m) joint venture.

The trials have shown that "export quality" coal can be extracted from what has already been designated as Jining No. 2 Mine by the Chinese. This result is crucially important to Shell because, if it goes into a 50:50 joint venture with the China National Coal Development Corporation, it will be responsible for selling half the mine's output overseas.

The coal project and other energy-related deals were discussed in China by Mr Paul Channon, the Minister of Trade, who returned from a Far East tour yesterday.

More important to the British manufacturers who have held back from investing in China's new industrialization programme, Mr Channon said that he had now signed an investment protection agreement - with a double taxation agreement likely to follow.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mobil bids \$5.7bn for Superior

Mobil, America's second largest oil company, has made a \$5.7 billion agreed bid at \$45 a share, for Superior Oil in the latest corporate oil takeover on Wall Street.

The move is the third major deal in less than four weeks, after the proposed \$13.4 billion Social-Gulf merger and Texaco's \$10 billion takeover of Getty. Superior shares traded at only \$39 yesterday on fears of anti-trust action.



Mr Derek Hunt 44, (above) the managing director of the MFI furniture group, is to succeed Mr Arthur Southon, 68, the company's chairman and co-founder, in September. Mr Hunt will be chairman and managing director.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$397.50 pm \$395.75
close \$397.50 (£273.75 - 274.25)
New York (latest): \$398.25
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$409.41 (£282.64.75)
Sovereign (new):
\$93.94 (£64.75)
*Excludes VAT

Sharpe faces the Octopus embrace

By Jeremy Warner

The Octopus Publishing Group created by Mr Paul Hamlyn is likely to make full cash-and-shares takeover bid tomorrow for W. N. Sharpe, the Bradford-based greetings cards group, after trying in vain to meet the company's directors. But the value of the bid will almost certainly disappoint the stock market.

Octopus announced last week that it had acquired options on 13.45 per cent of Sharpe's shares and wanted to discuss a bid worth 390p a share, or £28m in total. Since then all attempts by Octopus to set up a meeting have been turned down. A spokesman for Sharpe's merchant bank adviser, Kleinwort Benson, said there was nothing to discuss.

Sharpe's ordinary share price has leapt to 495p since last week's announcement. However, Octopus is likely to pitch its first bid significantly lower.

Mr Roger Seelig of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank advising Octopus, has said he would be seeking substantially more institutional support before moving to a full bid.

Several large institutional shareholders, including Sun Alliance, have already defected to the Octopus side by granting options and a significant number of others are expected to join them in granting Octopus the right to buy their shareholdings by tomorrow.

One member of this group of dissatisfied shareholders said:

Rise would be useless for poor, says report

Higher tax thresholds attacked

By Our Economics Correspondent

The fears of many Conservative MPs that today's Budget will have little to offer the less affluent are likely to be intensified by new calculations published by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

These show that raising the thresholds at which people start to pay tax is "almost completely useless" as a way of tackling the poverty and unemployment traps faced by the low-paid.

Families caught in the poverty trap lose most, or even all, of any extra earnings in tax and lost benefits. The unemployment trap affects families which are as well-off, or nearly as well off, on the dole as in work.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, has placed great emphasis on the need to raise tax thresholds to help those on low

thresholds give greater benefit to those who still pay tax, and partly because relatively few - less than 10 per cent - of the 1.5 million people who would be taken out of the tax net are heads of households. Almost half are pensioners and most of the others are married women or youngsters - generally in households with more than one earner. Consequently, people with low earnings are not necessarily poor, Mr Kay points out.

Who would benefit from an increase in tax thresholds?	Percentage	Number (millions)
Pensioners	43%	.65
Juveniles	21%	.32
Married women	28%	.42
Others	8%	.12

incomes. He is widely expected to increase them by 3 to 5 per cent more than the rate of inflation, and will present the move as a counter to tax cuts on investment income and other reforms which will primarily benefit the wealthy.

But according to Mr John Kay, IFS director, even a rise in tax thresholds of 30 per cent - far beyond what the Chancellor is contemplating - would make virtually no impact on the twin traps.

This is partly because higher

thresholds give greater benefit to those who still pay tax, and partly because relatively few - less than 10 per cent - of the 1.5 million people who would be taken out of the tax net are heads of households. Almost half are pensioners and most of the others are married women or youngsters - generally in households with more than one earner. Consequently, people with low earnings are not necessarily poor, Mr Kay points out.

"Any Chancellor who rises on Budget Day and claims that by increasing income tax allowances he has made significant inroads into the poverty and unemployment traps, or started to sort out the nonsensical interactions between the tax and benefit systems, is simply talking ill-informed nonsense," says Mr Kay, who favours reform of the benefit system.

البنك السعودي العالمي المحدود

Saudi International Bank

AL-BANK AL-SAUDI AL-ALAMI LIMITED

Extract from Consolidated Accounts at 31 December 1983

	1983 £'000	1982 £'000
Share Capital and Reserves	99,906	77,306
Subordinated Loans from Shareholders	54,425	49,481
Total Capital Funds	154,331	126,787
Deposit Liabilities	2,518,669	2,324,746
Loans	1,215,348	1,045,312
Total Assets	2,772,845	2,531,748
Profit before Taxation	20,289	15,282
Profit attributable to Shareholders	11,350	9,430

Shareholders: Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, National Commercial Bank (Saudi Arabia), Riyad Bank, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, The Bank of Tokyo, Ltd., Banque Nationale de Paris, Deutsche Bank A.G., National Westminster Bank PLC and Union Bank of Switzerland.

99 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3TB. Telephone 01-638 2323. Telex 88122612.

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

English China Clay fires enthusiasm

He added that he did not believe the bid would affect Macpherson's relationship with Woolworth as the store chain's sole paint supplier.

Mr Hans Mivier, president of AB With Becker, met the Woolworth board yesterday.

The offer is being made through Becker Trade Paint International, the British subsidiary, which already owns just under 5 per cent of Macpherson.

It says that its British business would be a good fit with Macpherson

280.4	274 B	Property (20)	..	282.5
1.128	1.024	Agriculture (20)	..	1.113

10/11/50

Steetley soars after bid battle

By Jeremy Warner

If Hepworth Ceramic had been allowed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to renew its takeover bid for Steetley, it would almost certainly have been unable to afford the Nottinghamshire building materials group.

As it was, the commission barred Hepworth from bidding. But Steetley need not have worried too much about the outcome, reported a couple of weeks ago. Full-year figures issued yesterday confirmed a dramatic recovery in its fortunes and put its share price well beyond the reach of Hepworth and most other companies.

Pre-tax profits were up from £4.4m to £23.2m. The dividend - cut in 1982 to 7p - has been restored to former levels with the recommendation of a 7p final lifting the total for the year to 11p.

And there was more in the group's catalogue of good news yesterday. Net borrowings have been cut by £26m to £39m, reducing the gearing ratio to 25 per cent and better results from almost all the group's bricks to aggregates spread of activities are expected this year. The shares rose 17p to 296p.

Having disposed of the Australian business, the group is now heavily dependent on the British construction industry. Prospects here are good in the medium term. The aggregate and ready-mix concrete business could receive a big boost from a Ministry of Defence contract in the Midlands that the group is tendering for.

£20.3m Saudi bank profit

Saudi International Bank, the London consortium bank half-owned by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (Sama), pushed up pretax profits by one third to £20.3m last year. After a higher tax charge, up from £5.85m to £8.94m, reflecting tougher rules on tax-spared ending overseas, attributable profits show a more modest gain of 20 per cent to £11.3m.

The fall in dollar interest rates last year helped Saudi International push up net interest income by 32 per cent and this was the main impetus behind higher profits. Although the bank has made no specific debt charge-offs in the past three years, provisions for loan losses remain historically high at £4.5m compared with £4.7m in previous year.

Ian Griffiths counts the corporate cost of the loss of tax loopholes

Blind man's buff takes over in the Revenue avoidance game



Chris Peasey

If 1971 is remembered, it might be for the collapse of Rolls-Royce. Mrs Margaret Thatcher's decision to save £9m by putting an end to free school milk or possibly as the year when the People's Republic of China made its first appearance at the United Nations Security Council.

Mr George Dawson remembers 1971 because it was the year he entered into a complex series of transactions designed to defer a capital gains tax charge.

Thirteen years and several court cases later, the House of Lords ruled that the tax inspector suing Mr Dawson was right. The scheme had no business purpose other than the deferment of tax and, therefore, could not be allowed, the case of *Furniss v Dawson* was finally laid to rest.

The decision was the latest in a series which has changed the face of tax planning and encouraged the Inland Revenue's anti-avoidance crusade, inspired by the tax avoidance schemes devised and marketed to great effect by the Rossminster group of companies in the 1970s.

Loopholes have been closed and the legality of schemes pursued in the courts. This led to the decision in the *Ramsay* case which enshrined the principle of the substance of a transaction taking preference to its form, effectively putting an end to the Rossminster style of artificial tax schemes.

The decision in *Furniss v Dawson*, however, has wider implications for most large companies obliged by the nature of their operations to carry out complex, but commercially based, tax planning. The legality of many tax-efficient schemes is now brought into question.

The decision has thrown the company tax planning world into turmoil leaving accountants afield to act.

The wording of Lord Brightman's judgment in *Furniss v Dawson* appears to have widened the scope for the Inland Revenue to clamp down on tax avoidance schemes. One tax accountant with a large company visited Somerset House in London shortly after the *Furniss v Dawson* judgment and reported that, while the taxmen said the decision would have no great impact on companies, their assessment

business purpose and business effect which has posed the problem. The difficulties for tax planners have been compounded by the Inland Revenue's reluctance to give guidance on how the *Furniss v Dawson* decision will be applied.

Mr Dawson's scheme sought to take advantage of the relief afforded to company amalgamations by exchanging shares in two family companies for shares in an investment company incorporated in the Isle of Man which produced neither a gain nor a loss.

It failed because of the inserted step which had no business purpose. Tax planners are concerned about which other types of scheme might also be invalid.

It is a situation in which the Inland Revenue is revelling. One tax accountant with a large company visited Somerset House in London shortly after the *Furniss v Dawson* judgment and reported that, while the taxmen said the decision would have no great impact on companies, their assessment

was delivered with a broad grin. For the time being, the Inland Revenue is happy for tax accountants and lawyers to sweat. But it knows that some guidance will be needed.

Mr Philip Hardman, tax partner with the accountants Thornton Baker, is concerned that without that guidance companies are going to suffer. He said: "Businesses need to know what they can and can not do. At the moment, a number of transactions which a group would undertake previously as sound commercial propositions are under a cloud."

"If a company is going to carry out a transaction, it needs to know what the tax bill is going to be. After *Furniss v Dawson*, nobody can tell."

Adam Smith wrote in *The Wealth of Nations*: "The law which each individual is bound to pay ought to be certain and not arbitrary." For the present, tax on many likely company transactions is in doubt, though the taxman might say that the tax is clear enough and only attempts to avoid it create uncertainty.

Some of the most common transactions used by companies to minimize their tax bills are connected with utilization of capital losses. These schemes now look vulnerable.

The problem centres on the curious tax anomaly which

prevents capital losses being relieved between different companies in a group. A capital loss can only be offset against a gain made in the same company.

To overcome this, it has long been the practice of groups of companies to transfer an asset into the ownership of a subsidiary with capital losses just before it is sold. The Inland Revenue has always turned a blind eye to this.

Whether its attitude will change now is uncertain, but more sophisticated capital loss schemes may not escape.

The Inland Revenue has already warned one firm of chartered accountants against advising clients to pursue a capital loss scheme which involved the purchase of a company with a capital loss in order to offset a gain.

Such changes will no doubt encourage the Institute of Directors in its campaign for a legal market in unused tax allowances.

Other schemes which could be at risk include the hiring of assets into another subsidiary when a business is being sold in order to protect tax losses and avoid a clawback of stock relief. Also, when a loss-making trade is about to cease but there are assets which will produce gains, these can be sold to an associate company before cessation and the gains set against losses. This is done because after cessation of a trade, losses cannot be carried forward.

To reduce the uncertainty, Mr Hardman advocates that an independent tribunal be set up to assess the acceptability of schemes. He says: "The tribunal should consist of Inland Revenue representatives, accountants and members of the business community. They could make instant decisions to reduce the uncertainty and make life easier for everybody."

This tribunal may be closer than Mr Hardman thinks, though its form might be different.

There is speculation that the Inland Revenue will be given wide-ranging powers to make its own rulings on the acceptability of tax avoidance schemes. This would end the uncertainty but the Inland Revenue is unlikely to draw too heavily on outside advice.

The United States has had a tax-ruling system for some time. Taxpayers can ask for a ruling on any scheme or transaction under consideration. If the scheme is properly described and carried out as suggested, the ruling becomes binding.

This is standard procedure but it is time-consuming because a ruling will normally take six months. It is also labour intensive to administer and that would not appeal to a cost-conscious Government.

If a formal system is not introduced, the Inland Revenue would be free to use *Furniss v Dawson* against would-be tax avoiders.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Chubb Savings	110%
Consolidated Credit	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Not a lender	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposit on basis of tender £10,000, 9%, £10,000 to £20,000, 9%, £20,000 and over, 7%.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of the Stock Exchange



CPS Computer Group plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1948 No. 482077)

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised	Ordinary shares of 20p each	Issued fully paid
£5,000,000		£4,400,000

In connection with a Placing by L. Messel & Co. of 2,000,000 Ordinary shares of 20p each at 67p per share, the Council of The Stock Exchange has granted permission to deal in the whole of the issued share capital of CPS Computer Group plc in the Unlisted Securities Market. A proportion of the shares placed has been made available to the public through the market. It is emphasised that no application has been made for the Ordinary shares to be admitted or readmitted to listing.

The nationwide business of this Warwick-based Company is the sale of IBM computer equipment, the distribution of add-on equipment for the IBM Personal Computer and the provision of related services.

Particulars relating to CPS Computer Group plc are available in the Extra Statistical Services and copies of the placing document may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (bank holidays and Saturdays excepted) up to and including 28th March, 1984 from:

L. Messel & Co.,
Winchester House,
100, Old Broad Street, London EC2P 2HX.

13th March, 1984

Wolseley - Hughes profits jump

On turnover up by 23 per cent to £209.29m, pretax profits of Wolseley-Hughes, based at Droitwich, Worcestershire, expanded by 46 per cent to £10.64m in the half-year to January 31, 1984.

Earnings per share climbed from 20.86p to 29.86p and the interim dividend is being raised from 5.08p to 5.35p net a share. Mr Jeremy Lancaster, the chairman, reports that all divisions increased their profits. Subject to any significant changes in today's Budget, the board expects the pattern of trade to continue for the rest of the current year.

This group distributes various products in Britain and the United States. It is also in agricultural machinery, engineering, plastics and footwear.

In brief

● **METALBOX**: Pretax profit for 1983, £2.03m (£1.64m). Turnover £24.54m (£21.09m). The total net dividend is going up from the equivalent of 2.07p to 2.27p a share. For the fifteenth year running there is a scrip issue, on a one-for-ten basis.

● **CREST NICHOLSON** has acquired the business and assets of All-Pro Turf, a supplier of artificial sports surfaces, based on Oklahoma City, US, for \$775,000 (about £531,000) in cash.

● **GRANADA GROUP**: Mr Alex Bernstein, the chairman, told the annual meeting that profits in the first four months of the current year were significantly better than the similar period last time.

● **A & G SECURITY ELECTRONICS**: Half-year to January 31, 1984. Turnover £1.9m (£933,000). Pretax profit £407,000 (£346,000). Interim payment, net, 0.95p (0.825p).

APPOINTMENTS

Chapman Industries: Mr Philip Walker, chairman for 12 years, retires from the board on March 31. Mr Peter Davies, deputy chairman, will succeed him.

The John Lewis Partnership: Mr John Sadler, finance director, also becomes deputy chairman from April 23.

Wallens Bond: Mr Eric Greenough will be appointed executive chairman at the next board meeting. Mr Jon Donohoe, managing director, will remain in that position and Mr Alaa Bond will retire as chairman, but will continue as a director.

Unigate: Mr Stephen Crompton becomes group treasurer from June 25, succeeding Mr John Warby, who became finance and administration director of Unigate Dairy Holdings in January.

Wall's Meat Company: Mr Roy Goldsmith becomes managing director from May 15.

CSC UK Computer Sciences Co: Mr David Markby has been made deputy managing director.

Touche Ross & Co Management Consultants: Mr Julian Bagwell (London) and Mr John Hampson (Manchester) have been appointed associates of the management consultancy.

IMI 1983 Results

Year ended 31 December 1982 £'000		Year ended 31 December 1983 £'000
632,639	Turnover	676,340
33,382	Trading Profit	41,631
5,046	Income from investments and interest received	4,640
(16,821)	Interest payable	(14,721)
21,607	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	31,550
(8,087)	Tax on profit on ordinary activities	(11,650)
12,662	Profit applicable to shareholders of IMI plc before extraordinary items	19,433
(1,915)	Extraordinary loss after taxation	(10,342)
9,404	Dividends	10,750

Notes
1. The analysis of turnover and profit on ordinary activities before taxation by class of business is as follows:-

1982	1983
Turnover	Profit
£m	£m
151	5.6
76	2.2
61	1.7
41	2.8
73	4.6
208	0.7
64	4.3
674	22.9
(41)	(1.3)
633	21.6
Turnover	Profit
£m	£m
155	7.5
79	2.5
62	4.9
36	4.1
70	2.6
243	2.6
98	9.8
743	34.0
(67)	(2.4)
676	31.6

2. Profit on ordinary activities before taxation includes the effect of fluctuations in the price of copper on the book value of unsold refined and wrought metal stocks - 1983 profit of £1,012,000 (1982: loss £340,000) - together with the profit on realisation of the 1982 base stocks of a subsidiary amounting to £1,053,000 (1982: nil).

3. Provision has been made for the payment of a bonus of £0.8 million (1982: £0.6 million) to employees participating in the IMI employees' profit-sharing scheme.

4. Extraordinary items consist of losses on disposal of businesses and closure of activities.

Dividends
The Directors recommend a final dividend of 2.5p per Ordinary Share, payable on 18 May 1984 to shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 19 April 1984, which will absorb £6,719,000 (1982: £5,373,000). Together with the interim dividend of 1.5p per share paid on 24 October 1983, this makes a total of 4.0p per share (1982: 3.5p per share).

Brief Review of Activities
Turnover and pre-tax profits were respectively 7% and 46% up on last year's figures. UK sales at £376 million were 10% higher and sales by overseas companies of £204 million were 8% higher but exports from the UK were 6% lower, largely as a result of withdrawal from unprofitable product and market sectors. Redundancy and reorganisation costs borne above the line amounted to £5.1 million. An extraordinary loss of £10.3 million arose from the sale of the rod and wire business in September 1983 and two small rolling companies in March 1984, and from discontinuation of other activities.

Fluid power and drinks dispense were major sources of profit improvement. Progress was also made in metal refining, copper tube and cylinders, special purpose valves, air conditioning and sporting ammunition. Demand for titanium remained low and results were disappointing.

The 1983 figures have been audited from the audited group accounts for the year which will be posted to shareholders on 11 April. The figures for 1982 have been audited from audited accounts for that year which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

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To the Holders of

W. R. Grace Overseas Development Corporation

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of April 1, 1966 providing for the above Debentures, said Debentures aggregating \$750,000 principal amount have been selected for redemption on April 1, 1984 through operation of the Sinking Fund at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date, as follows:

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Payment will be made upon presentation and surrender of the above Debentures with coupons due October 1, 1983 and subsequent coupons attached at the main offices of any of the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, New York 10015; Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, London and Paris; Algemeene Bank Nederland N.V. in Amsterdam; Credito Italiano in Milan; and Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A. in Luxembourg. Coupons due April 1, 1984 should be detached and collected in the usual manner.

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The current conversion price of the Debentures is \$57.32 per share of Common Stock of W. R. Grace & Co. The right to convert the Debentures called for redemption shall expire at the close of business on March 22, 1984.

W. R. GRACE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Dated: March 1, 1984

● The legend of Amdahl

COMPUTER HORIZONS

● Magic in a message: Page 25

Slice of the action for Third World

Third World governments and the manufacturers of sophisticated telecommunications equipment have something in common - they must reassess the commercial potential of the underdeveloped nations. That appears to be one of the preliminary findings of a research commission created two years ago by the International Telecommunications Union (an arm of the United Nations) to investigate why poor nations' telecommunications lagged behind the developed world and how that situation could be improved.

The collection of the evidence required to ensure that conversion is one of the principal tasks of the commission which will need to provide proof that these countries are as interested in trade as aid and are prepared to help themselves. The commission's report, which is due to be completed and published at the end of this year, is expected to be the blueprint of a strategy that will close the gap between the rich and the poor nations.

Telecommunications have become as vital to the economic development of a nation as finance and energy. Industry cannot flourish and society is unable to benefit from the consequences of sophisticated communications which are particularly visible in the field of education and emergency services.

The United Nations has become increasingly concerned that 1,200 million television sets and telephones are concentrated largely in nine countries. The top nine telephone user list reads USA (80 telephones per 100 population); Sweden (78%), UK (48%), Japan (48%), West Germany (44%), Italy (31%), Hong Kong (30), Spain (24%), Barbados (21%). Those densities are in sharp contrast to Ethiopia which has about 0.2 per cent.

The task facing the ITU commission, led by Sir Donald Maitland, is formidable. He has just returned from meetings in Washington with the World Bank which is investigating how such projects could be financed. The manufacturers must review the Third World markets and bury their prejudices. Unstable economies, bad debts, corrupt governments and avaricious agents only interested in their commission have all been instrumental in unerving European telecommunications manufacturers. But the markets of the future are in the Third World and it is in the interest of the developed countries that the backward economies are stimulated so that in time they will be independent prime consumers.

HM The Queen in her Christmas address last year emphasised her concern over the gap between these nations. She said: "In spite of all the progress that has been made, the greatest problem in the world today remains the gap between rich and poor countries and we shall both begin to close this gap until we hear less about nationalism and more about interdependence."

"One of the main aims of the Commonwealth is to make an effective contribution towards redressing the economic balance between nations. What we want to see is still more modern technology being used by poorer countries to provide employment and to produce primary products and components, which will be bought in turn by the richer countries at competitive prices."

She had travelled extensively throughout her Commonwealth and seen the poverty herself. Her conclusions are accurate. Concerned by the same findings, the United Nations designated last year World Communications Year during which the

Maitland commission began its investigations.

With headquarters in Geneva, the 17 member commission was spawned in the autumn of 1982 by the delegates to the Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU in Nairobi. The conference, in the name of its 159 member states decided to create the Commission since it had recognised: "The fundamental importance of telecommunications as an essential element in the economic and social development of all countries..."

The Commission remains confident that many underdeveloped nations are interested in helping themselves, and at least partly financing the technological projects from their own resources. That will require a change of attitude on behalf of some Third World governments and the commercial

level of investment in telecommunications in the developing world been so low hitherto? As so often, the answer is not clear-cut. Shortage of funds is only one part - and perhaps a minor part - of the story. The governments of many developing countries have preferred to devote available resources to agriculture, industry, roads, the social services, or to their armed forces, and for various reasons have tended to neglect telecommunications.

Consultants Arthur D Little compiled a report on world telecommunications and concluded that there would be a twofold increase in world telecommunications during this decade. They concluded that with Asia setting the pace, the world market would double to about US \$7,000m by the end of the decade.

The task of the commission is daunting not just because of the complexity of the issues but because telecommunications is an industry, even in the developed nations, which is steeped in politics. Most of the western European nations have their networks controlled by their Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones (PTTs) - the telecommunications authorities which are either owned by the governments or are government agencies. Even they are finding it difficult to allow telecommunications to develop unbridled. In the Third World, where telecommunications is as vital to political power as military muscle, that unbridled development gets even more complex.

The developing nations themselves must therefore seriously review their telecommunications policies if the work of the ITU Commission is to be worthwhile.

Said Maitland in Washington: "I have no doubt as to which of the issues the Commission is tackling will prove the most difficult. How is the expansion of telecommunications to be financed?"

"There is a prior question. Why has

the level of investment in telecommunications in the developing world been so low hitherto? As so often, the answer is not clear-cut. Shortage of funds is only one part - and perhaps a minor part - of the story. The governments of many developing countries have preferred to devote available resources to agriculture, industry, roads, the social services, or to their armed forces, and for various reasons have tended to neglect telecommunications.

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Something new in the shop window

A remarkable new ROM chip for the BBC Micro has brought spectacular visual effects within reach of businesses without professional programmers. The Graphics ROM, developed by Computer Concepts, inventors of the Wordwise chip that has turned some 30,000 BBC micros into word processors, plugs straight into the machine for instant use and costs £28 plus VAT.

It gives the user easy access to multi-coloured, multi-patterned and multi-sized lettering, together with outline and filled shapes, rotation, inversion and animation. Film-style scrolling and three-dimensional effects are easily added, all using simple commands which can be obeyed directly or else built into BASIC programs. This means that changing the message or presentation can take just a few moments.

Any business that is prepared to put its BBC Micro into the shop window can have an up-to-date, eye-catching window display. Computer Concepts has been commissioned by the city bookshop, John Smith & Son, to provide a window display to promote its chess competition.

Schools, colleges and ITCs will be interested in this ROM's display capabilities and not only for commercial reasons. The Graphics ROM supports Sprites (colour pictures drawn by the user and stored on disc for later use) Films (moving Sprites) and Turd graphics (part of the LOGO system). It even provides an extra screen mode, Mode 8, to add to the complement of eight supplied by Acorn. This gives 16 colour and medium resolution graphics but leaves free an extra 10K of RAM for the user.

Two Japanese electronics manufacturers are vying for possession of the world champion electronic chip.

Hitachi claims to have the world's fastest 64K SRAM or 64-kilobit static random-access memory chip. This registers an access time of 55 nanoseconds, compared with between 100 and 200 nanoseconds for other 64K SRAMs.

In June NEC Corp is to start sending out samples of a new product which, it is claimed, will register an access time of a mere 40 nanoseconds. One nanosecond is a billionth of a second.

The speedup, NEC says, has been made possible by the adoption of the latest CMOS (complementary metal oxide semiconductor) precision process technology and double-layer instead of single-layer aluminium wiring technology.

The Royal Observatory in Hong Kong and the Meteorological Bureau in Guangdong, China, have signed an agreement to set up a joint-venture automatic weather station on Huanan Zhou off the Pearl River Estuary about 70 kilometres southeast of Zhuhai. The Guangdong bureau will provide the site and all civil works and the Royal Observatory will provide the meteorological sensors, designs and construct a micro-processor-based system and develop the computer software.

These facilities will be used to acquire and process meteorological data at the site and transmit them back to the Royal Observatory. As there is no electricity on the uninhabited island the equipment will be powered by solar energy.

Overseas

International Business Equipment & Computer Show, Singapore, March 13-17
Personal Computer Show, Sydney, Australia, March 14-17
Videotex '84, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, April 16-18



"I think I'll call it a synthesizer"

The first low-cost (£30) robot will be available within the next few months. Zeaker 2, designed by the grandly named Inter-Galactic Robots, one of the many high-tech companies based in Islington, London, will come in kit form, with plug-in modules needing no minimal amount of soldering. It will interface with popular micro units and allow the estimated 25 per cent of home micro users (15 million) a cheap and easy entry into the world of robotics.

The company is well advanced with development of a more sophisticated humanoid robot, and is seeking suitable funding for this and other projects, among them the study of agribotics, in which robotic tractors would move relentlessly up and down fields all day.

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Silicon Shakespeare is the latest venture by Penguin Books, which has just launched its Study Software label. The first titles, by two teachers, John Mervin and Stewart Martin, take the work, and by use of text and micro, allow the student to seek relationships between characters, examine themes, study a particular act, or work through the entire play, at their own pace. The authors see the software, running on the Spectrum, as a useful revision aid, but emphasize that it does not supplant either text or teacher.

Computers, maker of the Lynx, has unveiled its long-promised business machine, the Laureate, selling a package for £1,000. It contains the new machine, with 64K of workspace memory and 64K video memory, twin disc drives, CP/M operating system, printer interface, and a suite of office programs from Perfect Software, and is aimed at the business user and suitable verbal markets.

Contributors: Jacquetta Magary, Ross Davies, Mark Stone and Geoffrey Ellis.

UK Events

Computer Trade Show, Water Conference Centre, Middlesbrough, March 15-16
Scottish Computer Show and Conference, Holiday Inn, Glasgow, March 13-15
Microcomputer Applications Workshop, Computer Laboratory, Liverpool University, March 26-27
Microcomputer Networks Workshop, Computer Laboratory, March 27-28
Electron & BBC Micro User Show, New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, March 29-April 5
Artificial Intelligence Seminar, City University, London, April 7-8
Sir Frederick Osborn School Computer Fair, Sir Frederick Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City, April 8
COMPEC WALES, Cardiff University, April 10-12
Computers for Builders Exhibition, Caversham Conference Centre, 82 West, Canish Street, London W1, April 12
Computers in Instrumentation Exhibition, Earls Court, April 16-18
Compiled by Personal Computer News

Dot-by-dot way of moving documents

FAX is short for facsimile transmission. There are businesses where either documents on paper are too complicated to be easily computerized, or where varying numbers of documents need to be passed from one office to another remote office in a matter of minutes, rather than wait for the post to deliver them the next day - or later.

This need has existed for a long time - the most obvious historical example being the transmission of photographs for newspapers - indeed, the earliest examples of achieving it date back to the middle of the nineteenth century.

The essential requirements are a device to scan a document and encode its contents; they transmit this encoded information to the required location; a device to decode the information and produce a reasonable facsimile of the original.

The transmitter scans the document, looking at a large number of "dots" on each horizontal line on the document. For each dot, most devices determine the relative darkness or lightness of the dot, and vary the signal passed to the telephone network.

The quality of the eventual copy will depend to a large extent on how many times the document is "sampled". These dots are then sent in a predefined sequence to the receiver via the telephone network.

The receiver will "decode" the dots, and then produce a copy (facsimile) of the original document.

There are now a set of

WHAT IS FAX?

By Russell Jones

standards for FAX, and machines fall into three classes. The first two send the information in the way already described, taking from three to six minutes to transmit one A4 document.

Machines are constantly being updated by the addition of new facilities and by using digital transmission the quality and transmission times will continue to improve.

An occasional service in which Russell Jones explains the meaning of computer devices and peripherals

London festival

The 1984 London Festival of Computing, sponsored by Prism Technology Holdings, is a showcase of the interests, achievements and ambitions of London's growing number of amateur and professional computer users, starting on Wednesday, April 4 and continuing until April 23.

The aim of the festival is to promote, in a practical way, the use of information technology products to those people who can most benefit such as schools and colleges, voluntary organizations, youth groups, businesses, medical establishments, and disabled people.

Contact: BIPR Ltd, 138-140, Wandour Street, London W11 (Tel: 01-734 2907).

Vienna pops up in Hemel Hempstead

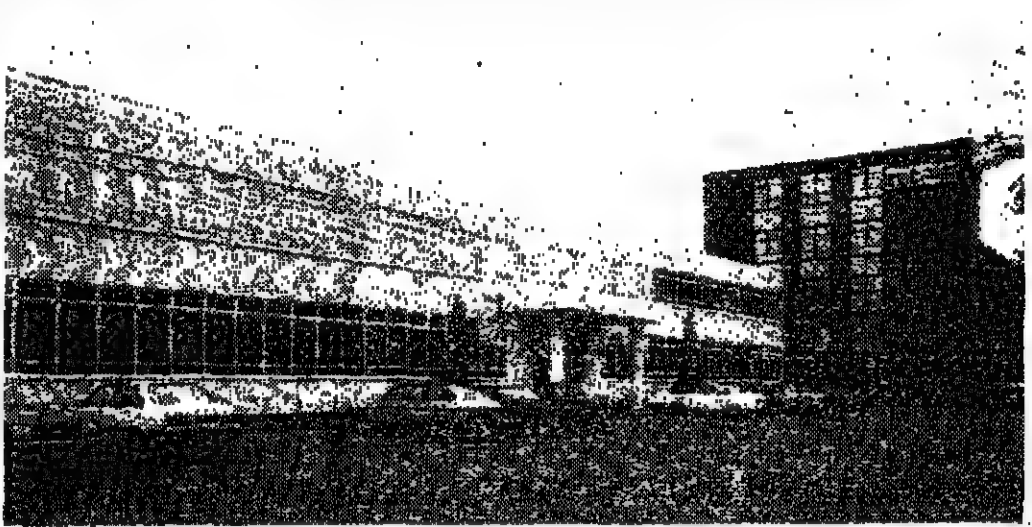
Hemel Hempstead is the unlikely birthplace of one of the first commercial computer systems to be based on Intel's most advanced microprocessor, the iAPX286. Last week saw the launch in Southern France, of the Vienna family of information processing systems by the Canadian based Northern Telecom Data Systems who have opened a design centre and production plant in Hemel Hempstead.

The Vienna range of products is the first to be developed at the centre, which has provided an extra 100 jobs.

In a reorganization and expansion scheme the company also transferred all its manufacturing in the UK to the new 100,000 square foot Hemel Hempstead factory, which is to produce both data systems and telecommunications equipment.

Northern Telecom's president, Edmund B Fitzgerald, said the new series is a family of computing and office information systems designed to address a basic fact of life: constant and accelerating change. It has what is called an open-ended architecture which enables it to accommodate every foreseeable development in technology and standards legislation.

"These days, technology changes so fast that many systems are made obsolete within their first year," he said. Although the 286 chip offers the sort of advanced features usually found on mainframe computers, such as virtual memory management and data protection, computer manufacturers have been slow to adopt it because of feared shortages. Announced about a year ago,



Northern Telecom Data Systems' new European Headquarters at Hemel Hempstead

the 16-bit 286 has only been in production for a few months but, being one of Intel's largest customers, Northern Telecom has persuaded Intel to guarantee suppliers through to 1985 to safeguard its investment.

Installations can range in size from a single intelligent terminal to a worldwide computer network supporting thousands of terminals. Vienna systems can be linked to existing systems, thereby safeguarding users' software investment.

The Vienna series utilises the concept of expandable shared resources computers (SRC), which can be used either singly or in linked groups to handle clusters of terminals and other peripherals.

There are three shared-resources computer systems within the Vienna family, ranging from the A-Form capable of supporting up to six

users, to the C-Form with capacity for 32. All the processors have high-speed communications options with the ability to link up in local area networks, or as part of an IBM mainframe environment, or via public switching services.

Vienna solves a growing problem encountered by organizations that have bought large numbers of personal computers for their staff and discovered that there is no satisfactory way of ensuring that key information on floppy disks gets entered on the central database.

Vienna users can enjoy the use of personal computer software such as spreadsheets, word processing etc., but all information processed can be readily accessed by everyone else, subject to commercial security considerations. "For too long, the customer has been the victim of techno-

logical innovation, rather than its master and beneficiary. Users have been unable to take advantage of new developments, except at the high cost of discarding their earlier systems," said Edmund Fitzgerald. Northern Telecom is the largest producer of telecommunications equipment in Canada, a position it has maintained since 1932, when it began as the telephone manufacturing department of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada.

In the past ten years it has also become the number two supplier of telecommunications equipment in North America, second only to Western Electric. In addition, it has become a significant supplier of integrated office systems to North American markets and international markets, notably Europe, where it has subsidiaries in most major countries.

The man venerated by the Japanese

● KEVIN CAHILL continues his series on Dr Gene Amdahl and the Fifth Generation

dence with Dr Amdahl, now of the Trilogi Corporation.

What the Japanese program managers for the Fifth Generation project thought was that Dr Gene just had to be dead, such is the reverence for his name and reputation in Japan, and in the rest of the computer industry.

To paraphrase Wilde, news of Dr Amdahl's death is very premature. In fact, he is lecturing in London on April 5. Details of his new chip created a sensation in Japan, and a huge contingent of Japanese computer experts have congregated at each of the three public events at which Dr Gene has spoken about the chip. But authoritative comment came from Dr Gordon Moore, head of Intel, one of the world's leading chip companies, who followed Dr Gene's keynote address at the triannual International Computer Conference in Paris last October.

Evidently unaware until minutes before of the scope of what his Silicon Valley neighbour was up to, Dr Moore continually referred to Dr Amdahl's work in glowing terms, in what were obviously departures from his prepared text. "It represents a real generation leap," he said.

But what of the Trilogi computer, and its relation to the Fifth Generation vision of the future machine?

In the very last moments of his Paris address Dr Amdahl indicated that the Trilogi machine would include a set of vector registers "of modest speed". The modest speed Dr Gene is referring to is the equivalent of 100 million instructions per second. Most big mainframes now include floating point arithmetic



Dr Amdahl... missing name

processors, in addition to the main processor. This enables the machine to improve efficiency by deploying specifically numeric problems into the floating point arithmetic solution, and it enables machine vendors to make their offerings more attractive to customers by increasing the range of facilities available.

But the growing problem in conventional, even normal, commercial data processing, the current "ancestor" to the problem the Japanese are trying to solve in the Fifth Generation machine, is that of non-numeric computation.

This is the kind of problem involved in database searches, string searches, and which has been partly addressed by ICL, with the CAF's (Contents Addressable Filing System), now a standard feature with all ICL mainframe hardware. It is also the essence of the new range of "Supercomputers"

being offered by the Japanese companies Hitachi, Fujitsu and NEC. Where the Trilogi machine will differ from all these solutions, and where it will come closest to the Fifth Generation specification, is in having the vector registers incorporated as part of the machines' actual hardware architecture.

This eliminated the problem of having to pass vector problems along a data channel to a separate processor, and represents a major design innovation in the heart of computers themselves.

Reminding his interviewer that Trilogi is a commercial company going into competition with the world colossus in computing, with 400 million dollars invested on which its shareholders expect a good return, Dr Amdahl says that the vector feature will not be available with the early Trilogi machines. "We have to keep some details secret to maintain our competitive lead," he says.

The absence of this feature might disappoint the purists, but the machine will not disappoint potential customers. The basic Trilogi mainframe, which will form the first of a range, will run at 32 million instructions per second. This is 120 per cent faster than the equivalent single processor expected to be announced by IBM shortly.

Unlike Dr Gene's machines since he left IBM, the Trilogi machine will be water and not air cooled. In contrast to the plumbing which is needed to cool existing IBM machines, and which can cost up to £250,000 on top of the cost of the machine itself, the Trilogi machine will be water cooled using a unit alongside the mainframe, which is no bigger than the average domestic fridge. The machine itself is no

bigger than a domestic washing machine.

Dr Amdahl hedges on what he will ask for the machine but the industry pundits suggest that if 1984 prices their new machine, which will consist of two closely-coupled processors, and which will still be 4 MIPs short of the Trilogi top speed at around \$5.2m, Trilogi will offer theirs for around \$4.7m.

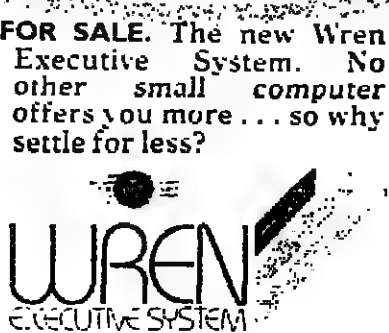
At this moment Trilogi has three machines in engineering prototype with the first machines due at the manufacturing plant in Dublin, either later this year or early next year.

On the topic of orders to date Dr Gene is hesitant. He says that Trilogi has had enquiries, and will sell all the machines it can produce in the first few years. So far Trilogi has had approaches from Japanese companies about licensing deals similar to those with DEC and Sperry.

Three of the Japanese mainframe manufacturers, Hitachi and Mitsubishi are barred from the technology because they are competitors with NEC and Oki. The latter, linked to Honeywell, could legitimately approach Trilogi for licences.

In fact the lead company, the Japanese family of companies to which NEC belongs, the Sumitomo company, announced as the Japanese agent for the Trilogi computer range. Nor is the end of the licence deals in sight. The major electronic and computer company in the world, either a formal or informal approach to the little company at the top of Ridgeview Court, Cupertino, California.

● Dr Amdahl is lecturing on Supercomputers at the Institute of Education, London, at 6 on April 5.



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How to avoid clutter on your screen

Office systems are beginning to get more attention in Britain, but it is important to recognise that this is an area where there is much theory and little proven practice. Office systems are generally seen as technology operating in a network environment and the emphasis is on electronic mail, filing and retrieval, diary, access to central databases and other network services.

Most of the impetus behind office systems comes from the traditional data processing industries, including internal DP departments. We hear little from the end users themselves, but in the long run success of a system will depend entirely on them.

Those who have had experience of working in the end user environment, whether as salesmen or consultants, have learnt to approach end users with humility. If a new machine is more convenient to use than the previous method, end users will adopt it. The classic end user, who today uses little more technology than telephone, calculator, copier, telex and typewriter, has rejected far more technology than he has accepted.

One objective of office systems is "messaging". I first heard of messaging at an American conference in 1977, at which several speakers talked with enthusiasm about the "Aranet". This was a network that connected 50 per cent of the research establishments in the US, and was used for sending and receiving messages.

One professor said that in the old days he had had a cluttered desk, now he had a cluttered screen. All speakers said that the system had mainly replaced telephone calls and letters, and enabled them to work productively at home if they had a terminal installed.

This network connected a "community" of research workers most of whose communications were with each other.

With a messaging facility like this, incoming calls can be interrupted, and so often with outgoing calls the people at the other end are either engaged or not at their desks. Why then is it taking so long for messaging to become a standard service?

What facilities would an end user expect from a messaging system? He would want the directory of people with whom he could potentially exchange

messages to be comprehensive. It should include all those in all locations of his own organization, and contacts in other organizations, and should also extend to the home.

He would expect the network to be developed quickly. He would want the same directory to apply to both telephone and messaging. He may frequently try to telephone first and then leave a message. He would want a device on his desk for his sole use and would want to avoid "collision", which is when he may want to use the same machine for two applications simultaneously.

He might need to send the same message to several people at the same time, and would need to know if his outgoing messages had been viewed.

This specification seems to be best met not by creating new networks, nor by means of a computer workstation, but by adding function to the telephone. There is a great deal of development on telephones with screen and keypad (display phones). The aim would be to replace all telephones overnight and the ideal timing would be to do this at the same time as a digital exchange was installed. The "mail box" and programming could be housed in the digital exchange.

The migration to digital PDX is well under way in the UK. To install the messaging network at the same time would support the financial justification for the new exchanges and accelerate the development of teletex and similar networks.

Users could call up the telephone directory on their screen, and the same directory would cover both voice and messaging usage.

It is possible that this new extended telephone would be suitable for an internal view-data service (the end user will be the ultimate arbiter). If every employee had this screen facility available overnight, there would be an incentive to set up a central staff to provide the service. There could be a range of corporate "Look up" information being available such as "Who's Who?" and mileage rates, and material normally posted on notice boards.

Frank Glyn-Jones

Glyn-Jones, 20 years with IBM, is now a consultant to ICL.



Following the now familiar trend of publishers moving from books to computer software, husband-and-wife team Paul Aston and Elizabeth Edmundson are carving out a section of the fast-growing educational software for their company, Salis Software. Geoffrey Ellis writes. Coming from a conventional publishing background, EFL Publishing, a company they started ten years ago specialising in packaging books, tapes and

worksheets as an aid to foreign students, they expanded and moved from London to the West Country. They visited Bristol to assess it as a new base, but it was raining, and they moved on to neighbouring Bath, by which time the sun had appeared. They decided to stay and have been working in the shadow of the abbey there since 1977. Last year they launched Word Power a spelling and vocabulary game.

Phloopy's fast load

If you have a BBC computer, there is good news for you from Cornwall. Frank Brown writes. No longer do you need to wait ages for contents of a cassette to be loaded into your machine. Indeed, no longer do you need to use cassettes.

A Cornish firm, PHI mag systems, has rendered them obsolete by developing a cartridge-based system called the Phloopy, which operates more than 60 times faster and is considerably more reliable.

Slightly smaller than a cassette drive, the Phloopy provides 100 kilobytes (just over 100,000 characters) of rapidly accessible storage, and loads or saves a file in three or four seconds, its data transfer rate being 10,000 bytes/second. It costs less than £150 including an interface, two data/program storage cartridges and VAT.

Thus, in terms of price performance ratio, the Phloopy bridges the gap between a cassette drive and a floppy disk.

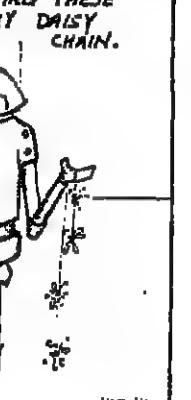
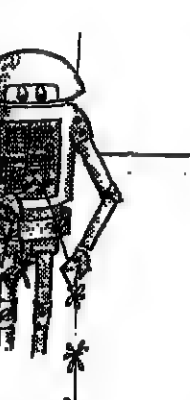
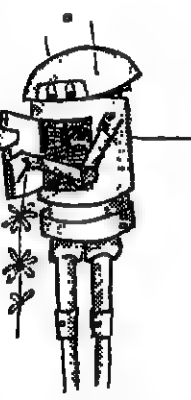
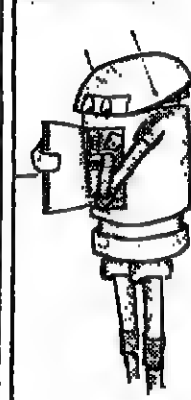
The storage cartridges are about the same thickness as a tape cassette, but slightly larger, and are inserted into the drive rather like a floppy disk. They contain an endless loop of quarter-inch tape of the type normally used for instrumentation recorders in industry.

The loop is twelve feet long and is driven by the drive motor - the Phloopy's only moving part - past a tiny nine-track magnetic read/write head that records a byte of data plus a clock pulse, across the width of the tape.

The Phloopy uses standard BBC filing system and basic program commands, plus its own utility programs. The unit is therefore completely computer controlled.

Production of the Phloopy has started at PHI Mag's plant in Falmouth, and the company aims to produce 20,000 in the first year. The Phloopy is initially being marketed by direct mail.

REDE



Coat-check at the cloakroom-in-a-slot

Checking your coat will never be the same again. A Stockholm company called Electronic Locks Sweden AB has developed a system which issues personal data cards instead of conventional cloakroom tickets. Roger Woolnough writes. The electronic cloakroom

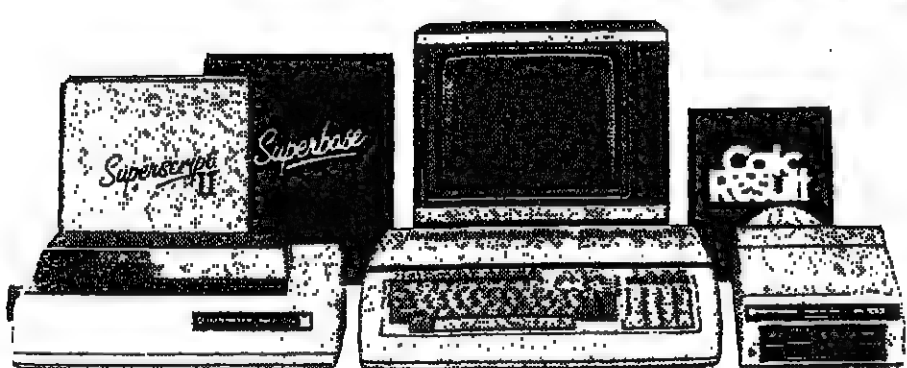
consists of 24 rotating wardrobe units contained in a square module. Clothes are hung in one of the wardrobes, and coins are inserted in a slot. The unit door is then automatically closed, and the module rotates to present an empty wardrobe. So far, so simple. But high-tech

really comes into its own when another slot issues a plastic card which carries a forgery-proof code produced by something called a "random choice generator". When you want your coat back, you feed the card into the slot. This returns the correct wardrobe unit and opens the

door. It may sound like technological overkill, but the Swedes say it cuts costs, takes up half the space of a normal cloakroom, and increases security. Attempted break-ins are automatically reported to service staff, or a siren is sounded.

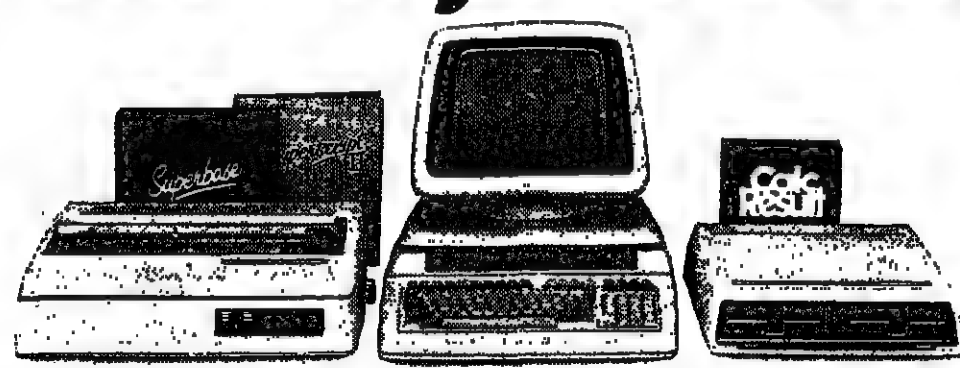
Commodore Business Computer Systems.

You scarcely need one to work out how much you save.



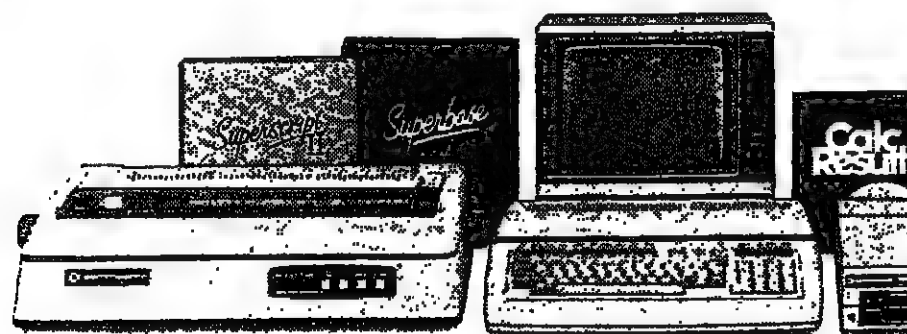
700B computer and monitor, SFD 1001 single disk drive, 4023 printer, plus cables and 3 software packages (Superscript word processing, Superbase filing system, and Calc Result Spreadsheets).
Normally £2,713*
Now £1,495

You save £.....



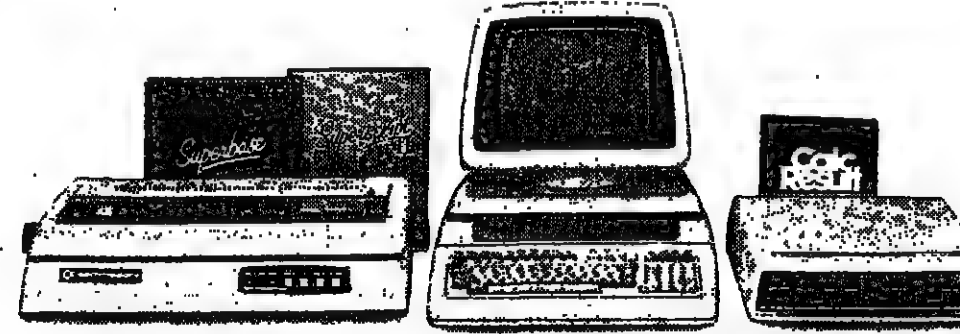
710B computer with integral monitor, 8250 dual disk drive, 1361 printer, plus cables and 3 software packages (Superscript word processing, Superbase filing system, and Calc Result Spreadsheets).
Normally £3,484*
Now £1,995

You save £.....



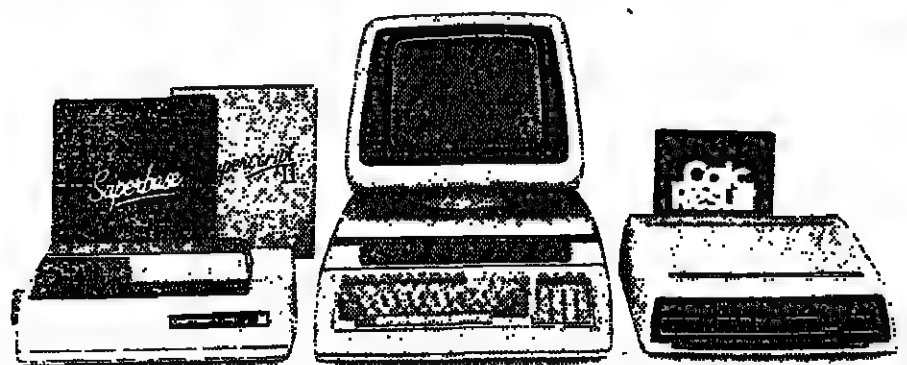
700B computer and monitor, SFD 1001 single disk drive, 6400 printer, plus cables and 3 software packages (as above).
Normally £3,363*
Now £1,995

You save £.....



710B computer with integral monitor, 8250 dual disk drive, 6400 printer, plus cables and 3 software packages (as above).
Normally £3,854*
Now £2,495

You save £.....



710B computer with integral monitor, 8250 dual disk drive, 4023 printer, plus cables and 3 software packages (as above).
Normally £3,204*
Now £1,975

You save £.....

This is Commodore's first ever computer "package deal" for Business - the opportunity to get all the hardware, software and peripherals your company needs at an enormous saving. We've packaged five systems to cover every size of business. There's certain to be one exactly right for your company. Come along to the Commodore Open

Days. See the business systems and software packages on offer being demonstrated, and take a look over our accountancy packages and complete range of business computers (it includes the amazing new SX64 Portable and the tried and trusted 8000 series).

Miss these two Open Days, and you could be regretting it for the rest of the year. Even worse, so could your bank manager.

*When bought as separate items. (All prices exc. VAT).

See these Business Systems at the Commodore Open Days, March 20 and 21, from 10a.m. to 7.30p.m. at the venues below.

SOUTH EAST

The C. Daniel Road, Truro, Cornwall
Holiday Inn Old Market, Bristol, Avon.
The Saxon Hotel, The Hoe, Plymouth, Devon.
The Riverside Business Centre, Truro, Cornwall
The Lister Arms Hotel, Exton Lane, Middleham, East York
Wren House, 180 St Michael's Hill, Bristol, Avon BS2 4RS.

SOUTH WEST

Holiday Inn, Alverton Road, Exeter, Devon
The Manor, 100 St Michael's Hill, Bristol, Avon BS2 4RS.

SOUTH

Crest Hotel, Handy Cross, High Wycombe, Bucks.
Ladbroke Mercury Motor Inn, Southend Arterial Road, Hornchurch, Essex.
The Great Dunes, Mollington, Kent.
Bishop Farm Hotel (on the A23), Hailsham, Sussex.
Holiday Inn, North Harbour, Portsmouth, Hants.
Kings Arms Hotel, 30 High East Street, Dorchester, Dorset.
The Dorset Hotel, New Road, Farnham, Dorset.
Holiday Inn, Dutton Road, Langley, Slough, Berks.

SOUTH

Ferraro & Craig, Grafton Way, West Ham Ind Estate, Basingstoke, Hants.
LONDON
Holiday Inn, Swiss Cottage, King Henry's Street, London.
Carnarvon Hotel, Ealing Common, London W5.
The Bull Hotel, Upper Richmond Road, West, Richmond with Sheen Lane, London SW14.
Sunderland, 263-269 City Road, London EC1V 1JX.
MIDLANDS
The Warrs Mount House, Baldock Street, Ware, Herts.
The Executive Suite, Norwich City Football Club, Carrow Road, Norwich, Norfolk.

SOUTH

Stranmore House Hotel, Arndale Centre, Luton, Bedfordshire.
The Travel Lodge, M1 Motorway Service Area, Newport Pagnell, Milton Keynes, Bucks.
The George Hotel, Sheep Street, Kenning, Northants.
WEST MIDLANDS
The Star Hotel, Foregate Street, Walsley, Wiltshire.
Borough Arms Hotel, King Street, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffs.
Lord Hill Hotel, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
The Grand Hotel, Colmore Row, Birmingham, W. Midlands.
Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester, Leicestershire.

SOUTH

Stonewort, Elmfield Road, Leicester, Leicestershire.
Penline Hotel, Macklin Street, Derby, Derbyshire.
The Wharfedale Hotel, Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham, W. Midlands.
NORTH
The House, Queens Drive, Ossett, W. Yorks.
Sherfield United Football Club, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, Yorks.
Northumbria Hotel, Osborne Road, Leamford, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Crest Hotel, North Ferris, North Humberside.
Danum Hotel, High Street, Doncaster, Yorks.

NORTH

The Village, George Street, Oldbury, Walsley, W. Midlands.
Preswain, Manchester.
Hermans, Sunlight House, Key Street, Manchester.
The Ellesmere Hotel, Buxton Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire.
SCOTLAND
Scan Dhu Hotel, Roschulm, Annick Water, Irvine.
The Hudday Inn, Argyll Street, Glasgow, Strathclyde.
WALES
Inn on the Avenue, Circle Way East, Llanedeyrn, Cardiff, South Glamorgan.
Froese Hotel, Pontardulais Road, Trawystroth, Swansea, West Glamorgan.

To The Commodore Information Centre, 675 Ajax Avenue, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4BG. Tel. Slough (0753) 79292. Unfortunately, I can't make either of the Open Days, but I would like information on: 700 Series □ 8000 Series □ SX64 Portable □

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COMPANY _____

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Computer Appointments

Computing & Electronics
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Recruitment Consultants

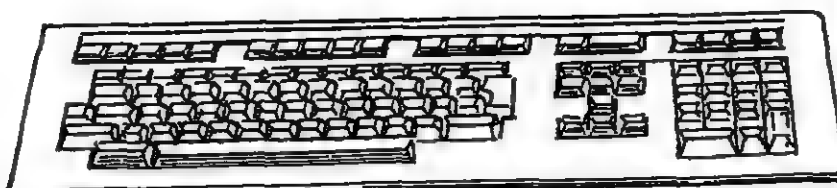
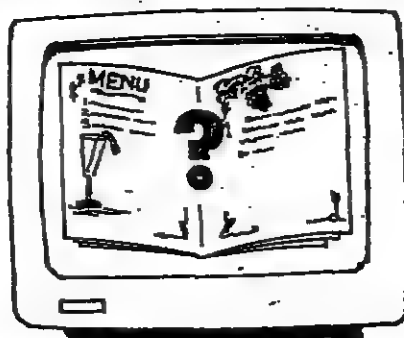
Industrial Graphics Designer for Reading Computer Systems £ Negotiable

The tremendous rate of development in computer hardware is bringing about radical changes in the way that users interact with the machine — especially in the Office Information Systems field. One of the major developments is in the area of high-resolution colour graphics where symbolic (and even animated) representatives are replacing word-based screens.

We are recruiting on behalf of one of the major mini-computer manufacturers who are well to the fore in Office Information technology. The company is now seeking a Graphics Designer who will play a leading role in this exciting field by applying his/her skills to advanced screen design and enhanced system usability.

Whatever your background in business/industrial graphics we would like to talk to you although if you have an awareness of computing this will certainly be valuable.

For further information about this unusual and challenging position telephone Myriad in Reading. Alternatively send us your C.V. and we will call you.



Ref: RW1/1303/T.

myriad
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30 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1AA
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Universal Computers Limited — sole UK distributor of Ultimate computers (all of which use the famous PICK Operating System) — is growing fast so it needs more Sales and Support staff to meet the increased demand for existing and future products. Typical systems cost up to £1.5m and software exists for almost every market sector.

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*Support persons — solid experience of PICK OS — required for its London office
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Company car, pension and private health schemes are part of the package. Please contact Ian Clark at:

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A rare opportunity to combine an attractive location with a genuine state-of-the-art work environment. An experienced Engineer is required to complete a small team of Designers working on interesting new product lines based on a powerful 16-bit micro-processor. You will be using the very latest development equipment, including advanced CAE workstations. You must be prepared to contribute to development projects from concept through to production handover, working in close collaboration with Production Engineers to ensure that the products you design are suitable for high volume manufacture. There are also opportunities for responsibility at Project Leader level.
Candidates should be graduates with at least one year's experience in industry, including digital design and micro-processor experience. A knowledge of software and of analog hardware would be a distinct advantage. Benefits include BUPA, relocation, 25 days holiday, life assurance and pension scheme.
T022/A

IBM Systems Programmer

Scotland Competitive salary
You must be young. This large and well established company is only interested in employing graduates in their mid-twenties. You must be willing to travel. You will be expected to provide technical support to a number of European locations. You must have at least one year's programming experience in an industrial/commercial environment. Ideally as a VM Systems Programmer in a database applications environment. At the very least you must have a proven interest in systems programming. It is intended that the successful candidate will become the company's VPS specialist. If you have experience of VP, CSS, NOMAD2 and NJE on the IBM4341 then so much the better.
Future duties will include the training of personnel to a reasonable level of VPS proficiency. If you have the energy and personality to meet the demands of working as an international troubleshooter for a 'household-name' multinational, then this exciting opportunity must be worth investigating.
T022/B

Systems Support Specialists

Buckinghamshire base + European travel £ High + car + benefits
Due to the continued growth of this company's customer base in Western Europe, they have an immediate requirement for two operating systems Support Specialists. Working within a highly talented and multi-disciplined support team, you will be responsible for providing operating systems expertise to customers in both the UK and Western Europe.
Candidates should have a strong background in either operating systems support or development, preferably gained with a leading manufacturer. Full training will be provided on this manufacturers highly acclaimed products and the successful applicants will enjoy a reasonable amount of foreign travel.
T022/C

Applications Planning Manager

Rural Essex c£20,000 + car
This is a highly visible and important position within a large international company in the insurance industry. You will be responsible for a small team of Business Analysts engaged in preparing advanced plans for the use of new hardware and software systems throughout the group. This will include involvement in areas such as office automation, communications and the integration of PCs and will require an up-to-date knowledge of the latest developments in the computer products marketplace.
Candidates should have had at least eight years experience in d.p., previous experience in the insurance industry, a sound background in systems or business analysis and a background in systems planning. The package offered reflects the importance which is placed on this position.
T022/D

Project Leaders

Buckinghamshire c£14,000 + car
A major trade service organisation operating a massive Honeywell network nationwide is committed to a programme of expansion and is now in the process of installing a range of new systems that will provide the necessary support for this growth. These 'new-generation' systems will interface with the existing network and experienced Project Leaders are required to design and implement them.
You should be a graduate in a numerate discipline with a background in systems analysis and design and, most importantly, you must have a proven track record in completing projects to time and budget.
Prospects of promotion within the group are exceptionally good as is the fringe benefits package which includes a profit sharing scheme and a generous relocation allowance. If your Project Leadership experience includes hardware installation (minis) and the reviewing of business needs then our client is likely to be very interested in you.
T022/E

Senior Technical Analyst (Software Engineer)

Buckinghamshire/Bedfordshire up to £12,000 + car + relocation
Programming expertise gained within a scientific or technical environment is one of several requirements for a company specialising in optical applications and associated systems software.
Progressive expansion in its bureau and turnkey operations has necessitated the recruitment of key personnel, vital to future development plans. As a Senior Technical Analyst you will be responsible for the development of customer specifications, liaising closely with the programming teams, and overall project costing and management.
Candidates for this interesting position must have a minimum of four years industrial experience with formal training in systems design and programming techniques with previous responsibility for staff being an important pre-requisite. Languages used must include FORTRAN or PASCAL, experience of M-BASIC and MACRO-11 would also be useful. Although current systems are based on the PDP-11, conversion to VAX machines will take place over the coming months. If you are seeking a career move offering a new challenge and responsibilities working with the latest DEC hardware and software this opportunity will greatly appeal.
T022/F

Accounts Managers

London up to £25,000 + car
These are unique and senior positions within a prestigious software house specialising in the fields of information technology and data communications. Reporting directly to the Group Manager, scope of responsibility includes the pursuit of new business, developing sales and marketing opportunities as a Senior Consultant and also the overall monitoring and appraisal of projects. It is therefore essential that candidates have a high degree of business acumen with excellent inter-personal skills. One must have considerable experience of managing large projects including some control of budgetary constraints. To the careerist these positions offer unlimited possibilities.
T022/G

Microbased Communications Opportunities

Berks/Herts/Hants. £10,000 to £15,000
People with communications expertise are always in great demand. The micro industry is crying out for good people. If you could work in an environment offering a mixture of communications oriented, microbased projects then you need never look back!
Modus has succeeded in identifying three such companies all of which can offer this blend of experience. Essentially you should be educated to degree level and have 2 to 5 years experience gained through either technical micro/minibased projects (using Assembler or languages such as CORAL, PASCAL, PTL/2, C, etc.) or communications related projects (involving X25, LANS, SNA, OSI, 3270, C01-C03, Viewdata etc.). Each company is different in terms of size, products etc., but they all offer a tremendous amount in terms of specific job content and career potential.
T022/H

Mobile Communications

Hants/Worcs. to £19,000 + car + benefits
Two levels of appointment exist in this sphere, one at a senior project management level, the other at a lower level involving design, development and implementation. Most activities are concentrated in the area of severe environmental HF/VHF/UHF mobile communications.
Applicants are likely to come from an MCO establishment or a communications manufacturer, be no older than forty and be educated to degree level or equivalent. Hardware or software design experience would also be advantageous as would specific expertise in areas such as C3I, Bates, Wavell, Parmigan, etc.
T022/J

Industrial Automation

Herts/Bucks/Berks. £10,000 to £14,000
Industrial automation and process control are areas of the real-time computer industry which are both booming and buoyant. They are excellent environments in which to learn about embedded micro systems, real-time multitasking operating systems, LAN based distributed, multichip highway architectures, bit-slice techniques etc., etc.
Provided that you have two years (or more) experience gained in a technical environment, i.e. using micros or minis, high and low-level languages, then there is every opportunity to gain very useful and marketable skills and techniques.
Typical systems currently in development are based on PDP-11, VAX and Intel 16-bit hardware, using languages such as CORAL 66, PASCAL, PL/M-66 — all very desirable experience to gain.
T022/K

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These positions require a minimum of 2 years COBOL experience, preferably related to IBM hardware. Assignments are immediate. Ring Tony Saw on 01-937 6586 NOW, quoting the appropriate reference, for an immediate interview or write to him at Webb Whitley Associates Limited, International Recruitment Consultants, 45 Kensington High Street, London W8 5ED

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Interactive Communications Systems

Cable TV
Greater London/Surrey

The company is a major force in cable television with a worldwide technical lead in the state-of-the-art development of systems and equipment.

Its operations system is based on a multi-VAX configuration with front end processors and a large network of micro-processor based switching points connected to the central computer system via high speed data links.

There are several new posts in the expanding team responsible for the design and implementation of the software and special digital hardware. The strong emphasis is on the structured application of good professional methods.

Software

A Design Consultant — with substantial experience of real-time communications software design in a multi-processor environment — for development of distributed processing architecture and related communications and high-throughput transaction processing software. (ref 842/1/T)

A Project Leader — with substantial experience of software project control — to supervise design and implementation of data communications, interactive services and network control software. (ref 842/2/T)

A Project Leader — with substantial DP experience — to design and implement an on-line accounting/administrative control package. (ref 842/6/T)

Salary c.£15,000 for all three posts.

Senior/Intermediate Software Engineers — with experience of writing programs and designing software in a real-time communications environment — to work on VAX software and micro-processor systems. Salary £10,000 — £14,000. (ref 842/35/T)

Hardware

A Senior Hardware Engineer — with extensive design experience in digital electronics and micro-processors, multi-processor systems, and a good understanding of data communications — to design and develop digital circuits at all levels in the system. Salary c.£12,000. (ref 842/4/T)

Pleasant widely accessible location. Removal assistance provided where relevant.

Please write in strict confidence with personal and career details, quoting appropriate reference, to:

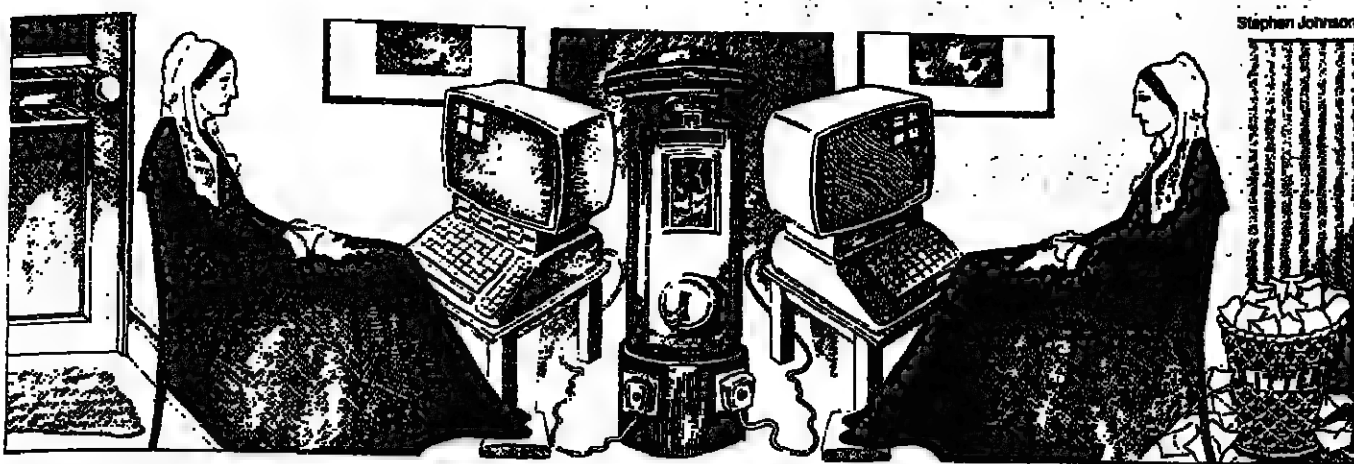
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Can there still be a place for messages with ribbons on



British Telecom naturally approves of home electronic mail and messaging systems, even if they are taking a long time to encourage these developments which you might think would lead to a reduction in the service as it is less and less economic, and less of a necessity.

Does that follow, even at the message level? What is the social value of a little old lady in Inverness being able to write to another little old lady in Bournemouth, in her own handwriting on personal lavender coloured writing paper?

What is the social value of their ability to mark in this way contemporaries, all this by personal messages not duplicable by electronics, chips, floppies, tapes, in a piece of ribbon and putting them in a drawer?

I do not know the answer I suspect, however, that there is social value in this activity. I suspect that as we change and alter the home by electronics, and alter its relationship to the rest of the world, we are going to have to consider the question.

But back to the Post Office. Does electronic mail and messaging really threaten it? Should the Post Office fight it, keep its head down, or encourage it? Should it approve of videotex systems such as Prestel and the Nottingham Building Society's Homelink service, offering home banking, home shopping, and access to a wide range of databases?

Charles Read, Director of Information Technology at the Post Office, is fond of saying it should.

He is not just putting up a brave front while he tries to find a way around or shift concentration to other services. He is being much shrewder and more certain than that. For as videotex spreads, so the more organized suppliers of goods, the mail order houses, and the retail chains, are going to encourage electronic shopping from home, and go far beyond the embryonic services on offer today, both in range and volumes.

But the one thing electronics cannot do is to deliver the goods: the clothes, the food, the drinks, the presents. That still requires muscle power, and the more the swing to home ordering via electronics, the sadder the postman's future employment. Indeed if we did not have the postman, we should have to invent him, for home shopping can be expected to bite in precisely those places which now have the worst facilities - country areas remote from and unable to support local superstores, hypermarkets and shopping malls. It can be another factor leading to re-population rather than de-population.

But how good can electronic shopping be? I am not writing about shopping as a social experience, but of the selection experienced. If you wish to see

Rex Malik continues his study of changes in a computer society

it you are unlikely to be satisfied by the current low definition screens.

Which means that we probably need 1,000 lines or more, and finer colour control, so that the colour you see and the reality really match. Better picture quality could lead in turn to seeing pictures of quite complex items, though the technology to enable you to feel the texture, though surprisingly simple to imagine, might be quite complex to achieve.

You need it with movement, without prearrangement. That should be quite easy to arrange. And how about holograms for real viewing quality? Though they are not talking much about it, the Nottingham Building Society is considering becoming involved in precisely that sort of service, and what is more one which is voice activated at the user end.

You are probably going to need better communications lines than the twisted pair that provides your current telephone service. So how about using cable television, which has already been done?

Or if you are that far up market initially, why not interactive shopping via your own satellite link. You want to shop (say) at Neaham Marcus in Dallas? Why not? Though for the majority the initial satellite home system will probably be receive only, there is no intrinsic reason why you should not have your own two-way direct link: the electronics are not that difficult or expensive to arrange.

If you want to make a booking direct with a hotel in Tokyo, they can show you the facilities directly. The test of these systems is simple: if they in turn are simple, if they work reliably, if they are cheap to the level where we simply accept them as part of our normal running costs, if they are at the level of expenditure where they come below the threshold where they are noticed, and so we come to depend on them as they get built into our lives, then they become necessities.

Does the phone eventually count as an essential item in unemployment pay and social security? A generation on, probably yes. I suspect that when we get to that time, we shall look at house purchase without the basics of built-in telecommunications as we would now look on a house without running water or electricity.

We shall be looking at this again in this series when we come to consider what I call "The Intelligent Home", and that, is probably as different from today's as we are from the mud and wattle huts of our ancestors.

Watch out for the winners

Judging is going ahead for The Times National Micro-computer Challenge competition and winners of the regional finals will be announced in Computer Horizons next week.

There has been a remarkable entry of more than 500, from all ages and many walks of life and judges rate the quality high.

The 10 regional winners will each receive a BBC Micro Model B, and there will be second prizes of £50 W. H. Smith vouchers for computer goods and third prizes of £30 vouchers.

COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS

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The Gavilan Mobile Computer is one of the most exciting products to hit the micro market in the 80's. Its unique features and compatibility with the IBM PC make it a much sought after product and we need professionals to satisfy that demand.

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You will provide a high level of technical support — both pre-sales and post-sales — and be involved in customer training and related activities. You will have at least 12 months relevant experience in datacomms, networking of PCs or operating systems, probably MS-DOS. You will be paid a basic salary of c. £10,000 plus a car allowance and participate in a profit sharing scheme.

Adam Computer Systems Limited is a member of the Adam Leisure Group PLC with headquarters in Harrogate, North Yorkshire. The Group controls a number of subsidiaries with expertise in the competitive environment of high technology consumer electronic products and the Gavilan computer is the latest addition to the product range.

Telephone Julie Ellison on (0423) 501151 for an application form or send full C.V. to:

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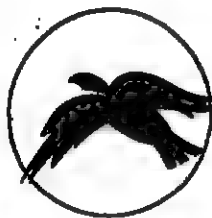
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To discover more, call 01-636 5440 between 5pm and 8pm on Wednesday March 14th, quoting reference CG/12 and ask for Tim Cooke who will tell you about these exciting opportunities.

Alternatively, please contact Julia Santen for an application form on 01-637 1511 at Logica UK Limited, 64 Newman Street, London W1A 4SE.

*UNIX is a product of Bell Laboratories Ltd.

Logica

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SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

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WELLS SOMERSET

The Communications Division of THORN EMI Electronics Limited based near Wells, Somerset is seeking additional experienced Software Engineers to make a substantial contribution to the development of major new access and revenue collection systems. These are real-time processing applications utilising the Intel range of 8 bit and 16 bit microprocessors.

Applicants for SENIOR SOFTWARE DESIGN and TEAM LEADER roles should have at least 4 years experience in program design, coding and system integration in a development environment; an academic background in engineering is preferable. The work will involve the use of both assembler and high level languages.

Some posts at ANALYST PROGRAMMER level are also to be filled and will demand similar skills, with a minimum of 2 years relevant experience. HARDWARE DESIGN applicants should have at least 4 years experience in digital electronics design, predominantly in the field of microprocessing and should also have some experience in assembler level programming.

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THORN EMI Electronics
COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

FOOTBALL: WATFORD ARE NEW FA CUP FAVOURITES

Ideal draw enhances Taylor's vision of the twin towers

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Graham Taylor does not even need the spectacles to see the twin towers of Wembley. The famous sight came sharply into focus yesterday when his Watford side was paired with Derby County, lying 20th in the second division, or Plymouth Argyle, 17th in the third, in the FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park on April 14.

Watford have only once before stood on the threshold of glory but they went down 5-1 to Chelsea in 1970. Taylor, who admits that he himself cannot help but think about the fulfilment of a dream, warned that "we must keep our feet on the ground and our heads out of the clouds".

Watford are now expected by the bookmakers to win the trophy for the first time. "It is just the draw we wanted", Taylor added, "and I suppose we should consider the cut in our odds as recognition of our progress. But, as you could see from the third round, being made favourites could be the kiss of death".

The competition itself was, for the uncommitted observers, in need of a kiss of life. The quality had been leaking so steadily out of the Cup that there was a genuine fear that none would be left. But drops of class remain and a final between Watford and Southampton will provide the public with an afternoon to remember.

Faie has so far dealt Southampton a cruel hand, presenting them with successive away draws at Nottingham Forest, Portsmouth, Blackburn Rovers and Sheffield Wednesday. They should have beaten Wednesday at their first attempt to book a meeting with Everton at Highbury.

At least they will start with the psychological as well as, for once, home advantage in the

SEMI-FINAL DRAW

Plymouth Argyle or Derby v Watford (at Villa Park), Sheffield Wednesday or Southampton v Everton (at Old Trafford or Highbury)

(Matches to be played on April 14)

replay on Tuesday. Should Wednesday qualify, they will meet Everton at Old Trafford.

Everton, aiming to emulate Tottenham Hotspur's unique feat of reaching two domestic finals in the same season, heard the draw at a civic reception.

Their fellow guests were Liverpool, their opponents in the Milk Cup final on March 25. Howard Kendall, their manager, claimed that "once the players have smelled the Wembley atmosphere, it will give them a tremendous incentive".

If Wednesday upset the odds

and win at the Dell, four or even five of their representatives will renew acquaintances with their former Merseyside colleagues at Old Trafford. Lyons, Megson, Varadi, Hodge and Heard were all recently employees at Goodison Park. When the two clubs met in the 1966 final, Everton recovered from a two-goal deficit to triumph 3-2.

Derby's survival in the Cup was tenuous enough at Home Park last Saturday and their existence in the League is still in doubt. Robert Maxwell's plan to take over the club was heard in the High Court yesterday but, after the taxmen had opposed the transfer of assets, the case was adjourned until today.

Mr Maxwell offered to buy Derby, whose assets amount to only £200,000, for £200,000 and the Baseball Ground, charged at £750,000 to the National Westminster Bank, for £300,000. But the arrangement would still have left the Inland Revenue and the Customs and Excise, who insist on payment in full, short of the £210,000 they are owed.

Final referee

John Hunting will referee the FA Cup final at Wembley on May 19. Hunting, aged 48, has reached the Football League refereeing age limit and will retire after the match.

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge is responding to the siren songs from Italy. Inter Milan are favourites to sign him from Bayern Munich on a DM2m contract. Rummenigge's wife, it appears, would be happy to live in Florence, where Fiorentina have an option on him if he does decide to move, which he says is "90 per cent clear".

But, he says, he has decided to stay in Germany, where he has a major club in the North would like to have him, especially Juventus. Inter Milan themselves and AC Milan.

The prospect of the Italian frontiers closing in June seems to have concentrated Rummenigge's mind wonderfully. If Bayern and Inter can fix the transfer fee, he says, he will move. "In Germany I have won everything. I've always thought of a transfer to Italy, but I put off the decision. This time I am at the crossroads. It is now or never. It is the most important decision of my life, and I shall take it in absolute tranquility."

Bayern say the transfer fee would exceed the record \$7m Barcelona paid for Maradona. Now Inter will renew their pursuit of the Juventus club, Gianfranco Socrates, from Brazil. Rummenigge, 28, earns DM600,000 a season on his contract with Bayern, half that sum again from Adidas and DM250,000 a year from the Gothaer insurance company. Other club money is believed to bring his income up to about DM1,600,000. But the West German tax is high.

The match of today is unquestionably that between Werder Bremen and VfB Stuttgart in the West German Cup. Stuttgart, who knocked out Hamburg, have such foreign stars as the gifted Icelandic Sigurdsson, once a Bayern reserve, in the midfield, and the Swedish, Dan Corneliusson, in attack. Bremen have the prolific Volter, who last week scored the only goal of a dull game in Brussels for West Germany against Belgium.

If Juventus could still find a way to beat Inter for Rummenigge's signature, they can pretty sure they would ditch Zibi Boniek, their Polish inside-forward, to do so. Promises at the Turin club are not of the sturdy kind. Rummenigge, who scored Sampdoria's goal in the penalty shoot-out in the 1-1 draw against Juventus (Pantini also scored a penalty) on Sunday, knows all about that.

Brady, who Arsenal and AC Milan are among those courting at the moment, was assured in 1982 that "Juve" would be keeping him. Then the Turin club found they could buy both Platini and Boniek and out he went. Now it is Boniek



Two of a kind: Sampdoria's Brady duels with Platini of Juventus

who fears for his future, although Platini took him out to dinner last week to tell him there was no truth in the tales that he wanted Bryan Robson to play alongside him, next season (Torino have now joined Sampdoria in the quest for the England captain).

Boniek, however, became very uneasy when the Grey Eminence of the Juventus club, Gianfranco Socrates, said he would like to see him in the bosom of Fiat, made some flippant, dismissive remarks about him in public. Whatever Trapastoni, the manager of the team, may say, it is Agnelli, on whose words all the journalists hang, who has the power.

Tomorrow, in Amsterdam, there is an interesting match between the Netherlands and Denmark, taking the field for the first time since they reached the final of the European Championship. Injuries permitting, the Danes hope to have their two Italian "exiles", Michael Laudrup and Klaus Berggreen, in their attack. To reach the semi-finals of the Cup Winners' Cup, the holders,

Aberdeen, will have to nullify the splendid little blond Uppes centre-forward, Andras Torosik, who has come back into form. At the end of the season, Torosik will be allowed to move to the fleshpots of free Europe but only, say his federation, if \$1m are paid for his transfer.

This was the message given to the president of AEK Athens when he inquired, and it could give pause to any club, aware that Torosik, at all his talents, has a tendency to put on weight, get into car crashes, and be sent off the field. His old foil in the Hungarian youth and full international teams, Tibor Nyilasi, who has moved up front while Torosik has tended to drop back, will be looking for goals and space next week against Tottenham Hotspur, playing for FK Austria in the UEFA Cup in Vienna. Both Torosik and Nyilasi were sent off in that stormy World Cup game against Argentina in Buenos Aires in 1978.

An uncharacteristic outburst by

another European figure who suffered a bad car crash: Miguel Munoz, the manager of Spain. His team reached the European Championship final with a very odd 1-1 win against Malta, it may be remembered, and most recently struggled pitifully to win 1-0 in Luxembourg, on a snowy ground, the only goal coming from Macedonia.

For some time, Munoz has been criticized for not choosing either of Spain's best known wingers, the fiery Juanito, a frequent scorer this season for Real Madrid, and little Lopez Ufarte of Real Sociedad. He has said that both players are "clowns" who have never shown anything in the international team (could he be referring to Juanito's last appearance at Wembley?) and if they have never done anything before, there is no hope they can do anything now.

This limits his options in strengthening the feeble attack of his international team

CRICKET

Australians are kept waiting by the rain

Pointe-a-Pierre - The Australians were taking the upper hand on the final day of their four-day match against Trinidad and Tobago when rain stopped play 13 minutes before lunch here yesterday. Nearly four hours' play had been lost to the weather on Sunday.

Trinidad and Tobago, who were 34 runs behind on first innings, were 79 for three when the rain came. Two of the runs having come from their opener, Simmonds.

Progress was slow against steady bowling by Alderman and Maguire, with only 12 runs added in 45 minutes to the overall score of 24

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: First Innings 34 (Ranjan 100, C Ramchandran 40)

Second Innings

R S Gabriel c Matthews b Maguire 10
P V Simmonds c Ramchandran b Maguire 46
H A Gomes c Woodley b Alderman 6
A L Logan not out 13
Gallagher not out 13
Extras (b 1, lb 3, w 1) 5
Total (3 wickets) 79

Australia: First Innings 89
C Woodley c Ramchandran b Maguire 46
B S Smith c Ramchandran b Maguire 40
G M Ritchie c Ramchandran b Maguire 40
W S Phillips c Gomes b Ramchandran 19
G D Woodley c Smith b Maguire 48
R D Simmonds c Smith b Maguire 25
T G Hogan c Simmonds b Ramchandran 25
J M Maguire b Ramchandran 19
M Alderman not out 13
R M Hogg c Moore b Ramchandran 20
Extras (b 5, lb 0, w 0, n 0) 5
Total (3 wickets) 370

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36, 2-135, 3-185, 4-264, 5-316, 6-370, 7-370, 8-370, 9-370.

SCORING: Maguire 25-49-2, St Hill 18-19, 2-3, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1.

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CRICKET
australians
are kept
waiting by
the rain

England stick well to task but doubts about pitch give Pakistan advantage

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Faisalabad

With the resources at their disposal, England did pretty well to contain Pakistan to 257 for four when the second Test match began yesterday, even after taking the first three wickets for only 70 runs.

The day under the captaincy of Gower, Willis being unfit to play, and in spite of dropping Zaheer, who made 68, when he was 34, they were troubled, too, by some inconceivable umpiring, although the decision which went against Zaheer helped to offset one or two others that had gone Pakistan's way.

Dilley, who was feeling far from well, put in a lot of hard work. The only pity was that he bowled a dozen no-balls. Although he looks as thin as a rake, Foster also bowled nobly. Having seen him yesterday I have much higher hopes of him than after the Lord's Test match last July. More than anything, he needs to fill out. Cook took a wicket in his second over and could well have had others. In the field no one spared himself and things were much improved by Gower's thoughtful handling of them.

It is a splendid ground - spacious, colourful, and with as good a modern pavilion as there can be anywhere. The weather was delightful. There must be sufficient doubts, though, about the durability of the pitch to make it a big advantage to be batting first.

A few students vandalized it, a fact which has been a closely guarded secret, from looking at it no one would know. It played easily enough, once the ball had lost its initial hardness. It resembles a strip of hardboard, 22 yards long by 10 feet wide, but there can be no certainty how long it will last.

With Willis confined to bed, mainly because of a bug - though partly, perhaps, as a consequence of recent events - England had only 12 players to choose from. Cowans (strained groin) was also out of the reckoning, and without Botham the party is down anyway to 14. The one fit player to be left out was Tavaré - in the sort of conditions which, were he in

diving to his right, England had a good constructive team meeting on Sunday night, at which the importance of making the batsmen come to fetch their runs was stressed. It was this which accounted for Omar.

At lunch, after 26 overs, Pakistan were 105 for three, with Zaheer in his twenties. It had been an enjoyable morning's cricket.

In the first hour of the afternoon, the bowlers were denied their true deserts. First, Salim, seemingly caught off the middle of the bat at silly mid-off, then Zaheer survived a painfully straightforward chance to Gower at second slip off Foster.

At 150 for three Marks bowled for the first time, taking over from Cook and taken on by Foster. Cook and Marks bowled together. At tea (188 for three) the life given to Zaheer looked to be weighing Gower down.

A quarter of an hour afterwards he could forget it. Gaining appeal for leg-before, more in hope. I would think, that his attention drawn to the umpire's decision. In the 75 minutes that remained Salim played very well, as he had from early in his innings, and Wasim Raja made 28 in that wicket, loose-limbed, rather disarming way of his.

If England were disappointed to take only one wicket in the last four hours, after collecting three in the first hour and a half, that is the way of the world in Pakistan, and they had stuck well to their task.

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At 150 for three Marks bowled for the first time, taking over from Cook and taken on by Foster. Cook and Marks bowled together. At tea (188 for three) the life given to Zaheer looked to be weighing Gower down.

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Testing the water: The Cambridge crew in practice yesterday for the Boat Race (Photograph: Chris Cole).

Credibility of Bruno at stake

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

It is not one of those classic Wembley cracker fights, and why should it be. Now that boxing has split into two bitterly-opposed promotional camps the national and international titles are being fought for by two camps. All the same, the bill is interesting enough to keep the troops happy.

Burns is back from his study trip in the United States and they will want to see what he has learnt when he meets Juan Figueroa, the Argentine champion.

Trevor Berbick, the world-rated boxer who beat Mohammed Ali in the Bahamas, meets Mark "White Lightning" Lee. Fusedo Barbo faces Larry Dugas, the man Noel Charles did not want to box on Barrett's show; and Mark Kayler, Britain's world No 7 middleweight, takes on an unknown boxer, Randy Smith, a late substitute for Bobby Ellis Foye, who will be boxing Errol Christie.

This will be a good chance for the fans to see how good Burns is, not so much from the way he is going to dispose of the Argentine as by comparing him with Berbick. Let us hope that Berbick's opponent Lee does not live up to his name "White Lightning" in making an exit.

Figueroa does not look a bad opponent for Bruno. He has won 20 of his 26 bouts. Argel Ortiz, the Argentine's manager says he has never been knocked down, though records show that he has been knocked out by two opponents. Bruno has been knocking over a lot of palookas. Ortiz said.

Figueroa's trainer, Syd Martin, from The Times Square Gym, New York, is as sharp as his diamond teeth and one of those men who answers questions with questions. If you ask him to forecast he says: "What day you gonna die?"

The Argentine at 6ft 5in is tall enough to look Bruno in the eye but if he is not quick on his feet he could soon be out on his ear. Burns must win as well as Barrett has already signed him up to face Bessie Smith at Wembley in May.

The main event is between Kayler and Randy Smith. Smith is a nobody but he has a cheeky enough personality to try to do to Taylor what Dee Lee did to Sibson.

Smith, who came to Gloucester with the United States team two years ago, lost a hard bout to Steve Johnson. But the American claims he has improved 100 per cent since then and he has won all his 15 professional bouts, 11 of them by clean knockouts.

Smith's trainer Kid Casey said: "We know about Randy's reflexes. You've got to knock a man out to win."

"We ain't heard of your Taylor" Casey said deliberately getting Kayler's name wrong. "But Taylor is going to hear from us." Ernie Terrell, who promoted Smith to Club Rob in town to see how his protégé does, Terrell too, once got a name wrong, that of Mohammed Ali, and was severely punished for his pains.

Bristol and Bath avoid each other

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The intriguing possibility remains that the West Country will contest the Rugby Football Union's two major competitions this season after yesterday's draw for the semi-finals of the John Player Cup kept Bristol, the holders, and Bath apart. Bristol will entertain Harlequins at the Memorial Ground on March 24 and Bath must avoid a Bessie to play Nottingham.

The week following these two games, Gloucestershire and Somerset contest the Thom EMI county championship final at Twickenham.

Semi-final draw
Bristol v Harlequins
Nottingham v Bath
Matches to be played on March 24.

which is Bristol/Gloucester v Bath in another game. The bestesting problem for Bath and Somerset at the moment is the fitness of Hill, their scrum half, and Cunningham, the hooker. Both of whom were injured in Saturday's semi-final at Leicester.

For the fifth time in six games they will be at home in the cup and will take considerable delight in being the Midlands' sole representatives in the later stages of the competition, a role more frequently occupied by Leicester, Coventry or Worcester.

Leicester, interestingly, having been involved in five of the last six cup finals, propose to close their season in an altogether different style. Wheeler, their hooker and Gloucester's captain, has been invited to take a team to Bahrain and Dubai to play a Gulf XV on April 24 and Dubai on April 29.

GOLF
By Mitchell Platt

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Crawshaw's XV call on Burgess

Clive Burgess, capped nine times as a flanker by Wales, will be returning from Brescia, his Italian club, to represent Captain Crawshaw's Welsh XV which will play the Welsh President's team at Llanelli on April 3 in the warm-up game which precedes the official opening of the renovated National Stadium at Cardiff on April 7 (David Hands writes).

Crawshaw's team is packed with several exciting young backs in Wales, notably Webb, the Bridgend wing, and Turner, whose lambo-ny play at stand-off half has done so much for Newbridge in recent seasons.

Norster, the Cardiff lock and Dacey, Swansea's stand-off half, received knockout calls from over the weekend but hope to be fit to train with the Welsh squad tomorrow before the game with England at Twickenham on Saturday.

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Oxford go ahead at weigh-in

By Jim Railton

Ladbrokes, sponsors of the Boat Race, once again organized an official weigh-in yesterday for the crews in next Saturday's race (1 pm). This almost meaningless exercise tells us that both crews are heavyweights in boxing terms, with Oxford (average weight 13st 12lb) heavier than Cambridge by 11lb a man.

If Oxford pull their weight per stroke, this could be a considerable advantage. But Oxford will have to pull their weight against a canny Cambridge crew. After the weigh-in Ladbrokes, bearing the weekend's performance in mind, have shortened Oxford to 5-2 on; Cambridge go up to 15-8.

Oxford's President, Graham Jones, will recognize that weights really are to the extent meaningless. No one can measure guts in objective terms.

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RACING: FIRST DAY OF CHELTENHAM

Dawn Run to produce a champion performance

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Without Gave Brief in the field, Dawn Run has set to become only the second mare ever to win the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham today.

Her overall form is far and away superior to any of her rivals, especially bearing in mind that for Auction, a previous winner of this race, does not appear to be the force of old. Furthermore, as a mare, Dawn Run will be claiming a 5lb weight allowance. This is the first time these conditions have been applied, and they look like being a most influential factor.

Take Dawn Run's last race at Leopardstown, to hint at her form. There she gave Boreen Prince, who was runner-up to Gave Brief in last year's Champion Hurdle, 5lb and a five lengths hiding. Now she will be receiving that amount from him. Also the ground at Leopardstown was good, which blows holes in the theory that she needs it much softer. Dawn Run's only defeat in her career was in Naas in December when she failed to give 23lb to Boreen Prince. The latter's subsequent win at Leopardstown put that performance into perspective.

With that effortless front-runner Desert Orchid in today's field, we are assured of a cracking gallop from the word go. But that will only play into

the hands of the Waterford Crystal Hurdle looks more open, with good chances being

sported by Crispin Emmers, the winner of the race two years ago; Daring Run, at his best; Gave Chance, Buckbe, Mayotte, and Mellie.

Fulke Walwyn is worried that the ground will not be soft enough for Crispin Emmers, who is an out-and-out stayer capable of surviving even the hardest of slogging matches. So his choice rests with Gave Chance, even though he will be meeting Crispin Emmers on 4lb worse terms than when they had the finish of a similar race to themselves at Kempton last month.

At Cheltenham in January Gave Chance was beaten a length and a half by Buckbe over 2½ miles. Over today's much longer distance he should

be capable of getting his revenge, especially as he will be meeting her on better terms.

With seven consecutive victories to their credit, the Irish have dominated the Waterford Crystal Hurdle in recent years. This time, though, I believe, the host country, has a good chance of keeping the prize at home with either Brownie's Gazette or Towley Stone. My preference is for Towley Stone, whose only defeat this season was on Warwick on December 1, when he was attempting to give Rose Ravine 19 lb.

When one recalls that Rose Ravine then beat Buckbe, the subsequent winner of the Philip Cornes Saddle of Gold Hurdle final at Newbury, Towley Stone's only defeat becomes all the more excusable. More recently, Towley Stone has been victorious by 10 lengths at Ascot, and by 30 at Stratford, and it will take a good novice to topple him.

Knock Hill, a stable companion in John Webber's well-run Oxfordshire yard, is not without a chance of winning the Kim Muir Memorial Challenge Cup, now that he will be meeting Sointulla Boy on 11 lb better terms than when they clashed last at Worcester.

A victory for Spinning Saint in the Grand Annual Challenge Cup, could see the day end on an unfortunate note for the



Towley Stone: fancied to end Ireland's domination of the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham

Webber family because my selection will be ridden by their son Anthony. Those morale-boosting wins at Hereford, Kempton and Sandown have ensured that Spinning Saint is in the right frame of mind to cope with much improved Mossy Moore, especially as he will be meeting that horse on better terms than in future handicaps.

With Bobline, Noddy's Ryde and Voice Of Progress all

standing their ground, the chase for the Arkle Challenge Trophy promises to be a thriller. Although Bobline is widely regarded as the Irish banker of the meeting, he and Noddy's Ryde, the highly regarded hope of Cumbria, might cut one another's throats if they adopt their normal attacking roles, and leave the way open for Voice Of Progress to cut them down to size.

It transpired that Voice Of

Progress was running a temperature when he was brought to Cheltenham in January. But according to his trainer, David Nicholson, he is absolutely right now and best judged on the way, bordering on the doubtful, that the brushed Duke Of Milan aside twice at Newbury earlier in the season. A repetition of those performances, which were good by any standards, could see him give his owner, Mark Vestey,

POINT-TO-POINT

Turner lands family treble

By Ian Reid

Riding at his brilliant best, never conceding a yard to his opponents at the Essex Union, David Turner brought off a Marks Treble on Courtmure, Hill Point and Barstich, all three owned by his father.

On Hill Point the open Turners took up the running a mile home and went clear, leaving Adam's Brake (John Hickman) and Scorching Wind (William Wales) to fill the minor berths. Bar Sticks, however, was a Spillers' Horse. Feeds restricted open and in a time five seconds faster than the open, but all the old Turner magic was needed to get Courtmure home half a length ahead of Flashman.

When Sir John (4-5) and Elmbay (5-4) pulled away from the rest of the field in the Oakley open, we looked forward to a battle royal between them. Unfortunately, Sir John broke down, and Elmbay cantered in by a distance, nevertheless recording a fast time and confirming the excellent impression he had made at Leicester.

Leamy Pidgeon, a classically repeated her Twelve double on Frenco Peacock (in the adjacent) and Random Leg (in the RMC Group Ladies' open), taking her score to eight.

Richard Mann is riding the crest of a wave. Having won the Warwick Hunter Chase and the Ross restricted open earlier in the week, he very nearly monopolized the Masscy Ferguison maiden. He won two divisions for Mrs Cockburn on Heshold and Motorbike Man, but on his father's Gold Mist he was caught in the line by Master Beau.

A good race for the Ave Vale men's open resulted in a two-length win for Stormy Dell, claiming the 3lb mare's allowance and ridden by Justin Farthing. Avonite and Pheasant dead-heated for second places. Julie Brett's Mystery, with Alec Laruff up, started at 3-1 on the Ladies' but only scraped home by a neck from Mister Bosun, with the 50-1 Foot's Trailmony 10 lengths away third.

Fennell's Bill, owned by the VVH Field Master, Alex Major, and again well ridden by Craig Pilgrim, justified favouritism by winning the first restricted open. Pheasant, however, that floated at the start, the greatly improved Caedra Rose, ridden by Eddie Whetman, was equally easy winner of the second division.

Canford Park, half sister to Special Cargo who had won the Grand Military Gold Cup on the previous day. In the last division Gerard Matthews, son of the Taunton Area Secretary Franny Matthews, had a greyhound on their 2-1 outsider Trust Rose.

The Ross Harriers' new and picturesque course at Garons was generally agreed to have ridden well. The most spectacular 'runner' of the day was a greyhound who led the ladies' race for a circuit, ending by jumping two fences, including the formidable open ditch.

Easterly pair prove a bitter disappointment

Peter Easterby, who mounts one of his smallest ever Cheltenham raids this week with just three horses - Sula Bula, Prominent King and Claydise - was not a popular trainer at Ayr yesterday.

His horses, Karmore and Jobrook, both odds-on favourites, could finish only fourth, and there were ugly crowd scenes as his son Tim rode each into the unsatisfactory enclosure afterwards. Tim Easterby would say only: "I will know more tomorrow."

Karmore trailed in 13 lengths behind Penny's Dream in the Rosemount Handicap Hurdle. The stewards called an inquiry after Karmore's failure to respond to the position entering the straight, suddenly dropped out rapidly. The stewards accepted the jockey's explanation that: "When I asked the horse to quicken he absolutely refused to respond. As the horse was not right I did not punish him." The stewards, however, ordered a routine dose test.

Jobrook, disappointing behind Respihi in the second division of the Staphorsley Chase, also disappointed. The stewards viewed the film of the race but decided to take no further action.

Great Head Boy booked his place in the Scottish Nations with a smooth right length victory from Boy in the Hollybush Novices Chase.

A 35-1 double with Greenacres Joy and Crowbeeper at Southwell. But Peter Easterby's Cheltenham raid with Paperator in tomorrow's Coral Golden Hurdle

CHELTENHAM PROGRAMME

[Television: BBC1: 2.15, 2.50, BBC2: 3.30]
Time: double 3.30, 4.40, Triple 2.50, 4.5, 5.15.

2.15 WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME NOVICE HURDLE (Grade 1: £16,774; 2m) (18 runners)

102	12103	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
103	12104	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
104	12105	BROWNIE'S GAZETTE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
105	12106	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
106	12107	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
107	12108	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
108	12109	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
109	12110	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
110	12111	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
111	12112	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
112	12113	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
113	12114	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
114	12115	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
115	12116	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
116	12117	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
117	12118	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
118	12119	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
119	12120	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
120	12121	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
121	12122	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
122	12123	BRACKEN (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait

2.50 ARKLE CHALLENGE TROPHY CHASE (Grade 1: £17,750; 2m) (5 runners)

201	30111	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
202	30112	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
203	30113	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
204	30114	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
205	30115	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
206	30116	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
207	30117	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
208	30118	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
209	30119	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
210	30120	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
211	30121	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
212	30122	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
213	30123	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
214	30124	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
215	30125	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
216	30126	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
217	30127	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
218	30128	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
219	30129	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
220	30130	BOSSLINE (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait

3.30 WATERFORD CRYSTAL CHAMPION HURDLE (Grade 1: £36,680; 2m) (15 runners)

301	12120	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
302	12121	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
303	12122	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
304	12123	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
305	12124	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
306	12125	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
307	12126	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
308	12127	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
309	12128	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
310	12129	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
311	12130	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
312	12131	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
313	12132	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
314	12133	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
315	12134	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
316	12135	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
317	12136	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
318	12137	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
319	12138	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
320	12139	AMARACH (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait

4.5 WATERFORD CRYSTAL STAYERS HURDLE (Grade 1: £18,962; 3m) (10 runners)

401	12140	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
402	12141	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
403	12142	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
404	12143	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
405	12144	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
406	12145	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
407	12146	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
408	12147	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
409	12148	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
410	12149	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
411	12150	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
412	12151	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
413	12152	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
414	12153	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
415	12154	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
416	12155	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
417	12156	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
418	12157	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
419	12158	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
420	12159	CHARMING EMERS (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait

5.15 WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME NOVICE HURDLE (Grade 1: £16,774; 2m) (18 runners)

501	12160	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
502	12161	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
503	12162	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
504	12163	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
505	12164	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
506	12165	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
507	12166	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
508	12167	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
509	12168	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
510	12169	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
511	12170	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
512	12171	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
513	12172	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
514	12173	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
515	12174	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
516	12175	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
517	12176	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
518	12177	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
519	12178	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
520	12179	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait

5.45 WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME NOVICE HURDLE (Grade 1: £16,774; 2m) (18 runners)

601	12180	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
602	12181	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
603	12182	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
604	12183	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
605	12184	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
606	12185	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
607	12186	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
608	12187	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
609	12188	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
610	12189	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
611	12190	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
612	12191	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
613	12192	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
614	12193	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
615	12194	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
616	12195	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
617	12196	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
618	12197	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
619	12198	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait
620	12199	BEACHCOMB (C) (D) (F) Sneya M Moore (9-11-5)	J P Tait

6.15 WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME NOVICE HURDLE (Grade 1: £16,774; 2m) (18 runners)

South West Water Authority v Rumble's

Before Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice O'Connor

[Judgment delivered March 12]

Water authorities were not entitled to make a charge under section 30 of the Water Act 1973 (as amended) by the Water Charges Act 1985 in respect of water supplied that formed part of a larger building and which were not supplied with water and did not contain any appliances which drained into a

or combined charges for a number of services, facilities or rights) as they think fit, and to demand, take and recover such charges - (a) for services performed, facilities provided or rights made available in the exercise of any of the functions, from persons for whom they perform the service, provide the facilities or make the rights and (m) without prejudice to paragraph (a) above - (i) for services performed, facilities provided or rights made available in the exercise of functions under section 14 above from persons liable to a charge under that provision;

hereditament; two floors of residential accommodation with toilet and washing facilities connected to the main sewer; the roof of which surface water ran and went down a down pipe, into a gulley and then into the authority's sewer.

The authority sought to charge Mr Rumble £196 for water services which they alleged they provided to him. Mr Rumble said that there were no drains or supply to the shop and there were no appliances inside the shop that drained to a sewer, he should be charged nothing.

In Daymond v South West Water

charge under that provision.

However, the words of section 30 (1) (a) were essentially the same words as those contained in the original section 30 (1), namely that the authority might demand, take and recover charges for services performed, facilities provided or rights made available'.

A natural inference to be drawn from that last provision was that the authority could only charge those who availed themselves of their services, facilities and rights.

Mr Rumble was not availing

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To apply, send a curriculum vitae quoting reference S/Ac to Cambridge Recruitment Consultants, 1a Rose Crescent, Cambridge CB2 3LL, who are advising the Company on this appointment.



Lord Chancellor's Department
THE LAW COMMISSION

Research Assistants

Applications are invited from graduates with good Honours Degrees in Law and those graduating in 1984 for 4 Research Assistant posts tenable for up to 3 years in connection with the Commission's work in the fields of Contract, Criminal Law, Family Law and Property Law.

Salary: £7,560 - £8,440 (inclusive of London Weighting).

Applications must be received by Friday 8th April 1984. Successful applicants would take up their posts between June and October 1984. Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from Mr J. G. H. Gasson, Secretary, Law Commission, Conquest House, 37/38 John Street, Theobalds Road, London WC1N 2BQ. (Telephone No. 01-242 0861 Ext. 205).

LEGAL ASSISTANT

Professional accountancy body wishes to appoint a Solicitor, Barrister or Law Graduate to assist in the Legal Department with disciplinary and ethical methods and the provision of legal services for the Association. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Write with full details to:-

Legal Secretary,
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London WC2A 3EE

Reynolds Johnson & Green
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An opportunity arises for 2 recently qualified solicitors to join this expanding practice. One will be involved in a broad range of corporate/commercial work while the other will assist in dealing with commercial litigation.

Applications should be sent to

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3 St Michael's Alley, Gresham House,
Cornhill, 53 Clarendon Road,
London, Watford,
EC3V 9DS, Herts.
01-626 1762 (0923) 50000

Stephenson Harwood

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Stephenson Harwood wish to recruit an additional Solicitor with up to three years' qualified experience in Commercial Litigation to join their expanding Litigation Department.

Candidates should have a good academic background, a practical and commercial approach to the resolution of disputes and an ability to get on with people. Preference will be given to applicants with relevant experience of one year or more but those who are newly admitted will also be considered.

Applications, accompanied by career details, should be sent in writing to K. W. Duncan, Stephenson Harwood, Saddlers' Hall, Gutter Lane, London EC2V 6BS.

All applications will be treated in confidence.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

A vacancy has arisen for an Assistant to help our Librarian and Information Officer in the running of their Department. The work entails typed record-keeping, filing and procedures required in the production of information bulletins to staff and Company clients, as well as assistance in the day-to-day running of the Library. The Department is busy and we are looking for someone with an interest in the Law. Accurate typing ability is essential. Would suit recent graduate of Library School requiring necessary experience for Licensure of the Library Association.

Please apply in writing with a curriculum vitae to Mrs C. Miskin, Information Officer, McKenna & Co.

McKenna & Co
INTEREST HOUSE, 1 ALDWYCH LONDON WC2R 0HF

SOUTH DEVON General Litigation
Solicitors (residential) and barristers.
Contact: West. Consultants 0936 251133.

LEGAL EXEC. Mid Kent Trust / Probate senior post. 2415.000. Permanent Appointments. 241 1281 24 hrs.

LITIGATION SPECIALIST for East Anglia market town firm £15,000. Permanent Appointments. 241 1281 24 hrs.

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LEGAL EXEC. West End comm/rev. Corresponding £12,000. Permanent Appointments. 241 1281 24 hrs.

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also on page 30

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TEMPTING TIMES

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Newly qualified solicitor required for very busy employment law practice. County Court experience essential. Competitive salary plus car.

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require a Solicitor or Managing Clerk for personal injury litigation. Experience essential. Salary up to £15,000 pa. Please apply with full CV in writing to:

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DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT SOLICITOR

POST No: 2/80. SALARY: £10,242 - £11,242.

Applications are invited from Solicitors for the above post in the Legal and Administrative Services Department. The person appointed will be responsible for offering legal advice to committees and other departments, representing the Council in litigation and at public enquiries, and in carrying out other duties, including conveyancing.

This post carries a Car User Allowance and the Council's Discretionary Scheme will apply in improved cases. For Application Form and Job Description please contact the Personnel Section, New Bridge House, Dover, Kent, CT16 1JL. Tel: Dover (0304) 204090. Closing date: 26 March, 1984. Interview date: 12 April, 1984.

ALL ENGLAND LAW REPORTS SUB-EDITOR

The All England Law Reports require a Sub-Editor to prepare cases for publication as law reports. The Sub-Editor will be required to undertake all phases of manuscript preparation from receipt of transcript to publication, including copy-editing, checking case citations, revising head notes and proof reading.

The qualifications required are an incisive legal mind (as evidenced by good academic qualifications), the ability to express difficult legal concepts in concise but clear and readable English, keen attention to detail and the ability to work to a weekly schedule. Applicants must have a law degree or legal professional qualifications.

Salary and conditions are in accordance with the NUJ agreement. LVs and company pension scheme. Please reply with full CV to: Mrs Dawn Gale, Personnel Department, Butterworth & Co (Publishers) Ltd, 88 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6AB.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bown and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; the day's television preview at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; exercises at 7.35; horoscopes at 8.32; cooking hints and financial advice between 8.30 and 9.00.
9.00 Craft of the Weaver. Programme two of the five-part series illustrating the techniques of weaving (1.95).
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Michael Fish, 12.57 Regional News (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes Dr David Delvin weighing the pros and cons of plastic surgery to improve one's looks. 1.45 Chock-a-Block. (7).
2.00 The Cheltenham Festival. Julian Winton introduces coverage of three races from the first day - card - the Watford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle (2.15); the Arkle Challenge Trophy Steeplechase (2.50); and, continued on BBC 2, the Watford Crystal Champion Hurdle Challenge (3.30).
3.00 Budget 84 - A Story Minutes. Special coverage and comment of Mr Lawson's first budget. Studio analysis from economist Peter Oppenheimer and chartered accountant Philip Hardman; Sir Robin Day assesses the reaction to Westminster with leading politicians; Nick Clarke is at the Stock Exchange; Nicholas Woolley hears industry's point-of-view from Aston Science Park; and Sally Masson is with the man on the Clapham Omnibus (Ceefax page 101).
5.40 Sixty Minutes, presented by Nick Ross and Sarah Kennedy, includes the main details of the Chancellor's budget measures from Richard Whitmore followed by news from Moira Stuart.
6.40 Harty. Mr Harty's guests tonight include actress Katherine Helmond, best known for her role as Jessica in Soap.
7.10 The District Nurse. Episode ten and Meron sets village tongues wagging by moving in with Gwen and David.
7.40 A Question of Sport. Bill Beaumont and Emylin Hughes captain two teams of sporting celebrities in a test of sporting knowledge.
8.10 Dallas. Sue Ellen tries to discover who is the father of the baby she has lost (Ceefax page 120).
9.00 News with Sue Lawley.
9.25 The Budget. The Chancellor explains the measures he has announced this afternoon.
9.35 Play for Today: Desert of Lies, by Howard Brenton. Starring Cherie Lunghi. Closure story of two ill-fated expeditions to the Kalahari desert, one by a missionary and his family in 1848, the other by three adventurers in 1983. Directed by Piers Haggard. (Ceefax page 120).
11.00 The Rockford Files. The private detective, on the trail of a missing man on behalf of the man's sister, finds himself harassed by both police and crooks (7).
11.50 News headlines and weather.

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; consumer affairs at 6.40 and 8.45; exercises at 6.50 and 8.15; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.30; cartoon at 7.25; guest of the day, Miriam Stoppard at 7.40; pop music news at 7.50; pop video at 7.55; odd news at 7.55 and 8.05; inside Ronnie Scott's house at 8.10; video report at 8.35; baby talk at 8.53.
9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Arithmetic. 9.45 How to talk about the future. 10.04 A day in the life of a police woman. 10.21 Going to school in Germany. 10.43 Evolution. 11.05 Finding and collecting things. 11.25 How coals became coals. 11.38 Shopping in Paris.
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11.40 The Levitas Man. Part four and Paul and Sonia fall in love.
12.35 Night Thoughts from Rabbi Julia Neuberger.



Wendy Morgan and Frederick Treves: 9.00 pm.

Years of unemployment haven't dulled the wits of residents of Liverpool's Netherfield estate. They have created a thriving unofficial economy to supplement their dole money and talk with disarming frankness about the way it works in Brass Tacks Reports: A FAIR DAY'S FIDDLE (BBC2 8.10pm). Dozy, a plasterer who hasn't worked for eleven years, typifies the mood of the men of the estate who he opines that jobs are a thing of the past and justifies the fiddling that goes on as a necessity. These fiddles range from stealing copper and other valuable materials from derelict flats, tampering with the electricity meter, to working unofficially. Dozy, just one of a garrulous group of men and women willing to talk on camera, claims that in the dock gives him a feeling of madness. Others have had to resort to petty crime to pay back the

odious loan-sharks, one of whom allowed himself to be interviewed in connection with the housing of an elderly relative of Harry, a recently-made-redundant drain engineer who has discovered that the giro cheque doesn't cover his mortgage or his household bills. He still has enough spirit in him to see the funny side of receiving an Access application form in one post followed in the next by the same bank threatening to take him to court unless he repays the money he owes them. Single mothers, too, talk of their financial struggles, but they seem to over-compensate their fatherless children by playing them with expensive toys: if there is anyone who doubts the existence of a father in Alan Bleasdale's series of plays, Boys from the

Blackburn, then this powerful documentary by Rob Rohrer confirms that they do exist and are alive and thriving and fiddling to make ends meet.
The world of artist David Inshaw is the subject of a commentary-free Arnie profile. Inshaw (BBC2 9.50pm). Directed by Geoffrey Haysdon, the programme brings to life, through the camerawork of John Hooper, scenes from Inshaw's paintings - most of which, naturally enough for a former member of the Brotherhood of Ruralists, are on English pastoral scenes, Inshaw himself appears in the programme as do his friends and the artist's favourite places in deepest Hardy country. A visually stunning insight into a haunting and imaginative world.

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BBC 2

- 6.05 Open University: Modern Art. Pissarro. 6.30 Potemkin 2: The Confrontation. 6.55 Biology: Membranes. 7.20 Science: Drifting Continents. 7.45 Mutations and Mutants. Ends at 8.10.
9.00 Ceefax.
9.08 Daytime on Two: German conversation. 9.29 The problems of post war Europe. 9.48 Maths: graphs. 10.10 Part eight of The Boy from Space. 10.35 Blackout's industry. 11.00 Watch. 11.17 Industry in the Amazon region. 11.40 Life and work in a medieval town. 12.03 Bellamy's New World. 12.35 The treatment of prisoners in Japan. 1.05 Maths: Matrices II. 1.15 Energy utilisation. 1.40 The seabirds of St Abbs and the Bass Rock. 2.00 You and me. 2.15 Grasslands. 2.40 Patterns.
3.00 The Cheltenham Festival. Coverage of the main race of the festival's first day - The Watford Crystal Champion Hurdle Challenge Trophy. 3.55 Play School. 4.20 Cartoon: Laurel and Hardy. 4.25 Jackanory. 4.40 Charlie Brown (7). 5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
5.05 Treasure Houses. Mark Curry visits Lacock Abbey.
5.35 News summary with subtitles.
5.40 That Was the Year. Chris Serle takes a modern look at the year 1783.
6.10 The Story of Atlantis. A Chinese made cartoon.
6.40 Tucker's Luck. Part one of a new series featuring the out-of-time teenager.
7.05 Sparks. A new series about entertaining young people.
7.30 Jane. The Daily Mirror comic strip heroine made flesh (7).
7.40 Top Gear. A special edition devoted to the problems of rust on cars. Sue Baker visits manufacturers struggling with the problem while William Woolford reads the mail print in the guarantee against rust.
8.10 Brass Tacks: A Fair Day's Fiddle. How some of Liverpool's unemployed are not letting that fact lower their standard of living (see Choice).
9.00 Mari Calne. The entertainer begins a new series with guests who include Buck's Fizz and Gerard Kennedy.
9.50 Arena: Between Dreaming and Waking. A documentary about the paintings of David Inshaw. (see Choice).
10.35 The Budget. The Chancellor explains the measures he has announced this afternoon.
10.45 Newsnight.
11.30 The Cheltenham Festival. Highlights of the first day's racing.
11.50 Open University: Personality and Learning: is it Significant? Ends at 12.20.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Arithmetic. 9.45 How to talk about the future. 10.04 A day in the life of a police woman. 10.21 Going to school in Germany. 10.43 Evolution. 11.05 Finding and collecting things. 11.25 How coals became coals. 11.38 Shopping in Paris.
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12.35 Night Thoughts from Rabbi Julia Neuberger.

CHANNEL 4

- 4.45 Night Beat News. More insight from the staff of the most inept television news station.
5.15 Years Ahead. A magazine programme for the older viewer. Introduced by Robert Douglas. There are items on pensioners who offer their services in helping school readers at school on Mr and Mrs. There is a film of stamps to help buy dogs for the blind; a film about diabetes followed by a cookery item on a steak and kidney pie for diabetics. In the archive spot there is a film of budget days of long ago.
5.00 Bewitched. Darrin is having trouble with his sorceress mother-in-law who wants to break up his marriage to her daughter.
6.30 The Third Programme. The third programme in the series illustrating our lawful rights. Presenter Bernard Simons. Fiona McTaggart of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants and Suzanne Lal of Manchester Law Centre examine the cases of three people whose lives have been deeply affected by our immigration laws.
7.00 Channel Four News. Peter Sissons produces a full report and analysis of today's budget measures.
7.50 Comment. With his view on a subject of topical importance is museum curator, Ray Batchelor.
8.00 Brookside. The Collins' decide to spend their premium bond on a new house and change their minds when they receive an invitation from Robin Tate.
8.30 Tm Keating on Impressionism. In the penultimate programme in his series the late Tm Keating traces the career and illustrates the techniques of Vincent Van Gogh.
9.00 Film: Ice Castles (1978) starring Robby Benson and Lynn-Holly Johnson. The first showing on British television of an excellent and subtle young girl who dreams of becoming an Olympic skater, champion are shattered when she begins to lose her sight. Directed by Donald Wrye.
11.00 Black on Black presented by Pauline Black. There is a news item on the AIDS virus and performance in the Super Tuesday primaries of the Democratic nomination race and an exclusive interview with Andrew Young, mayor of Atlanta, film from last week and a Trinidad Carnival. Studio guests include screenwriter Trevor Rundle and sports commentator, Miles Allen. There is also a review of the latest video by Galaxy Star, The Phil Ferson.
12.00 Close down.

RADIO 4

- 6.00 News Summary. 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 Today. 6.55 Prayer for the Day. 7.00 The Archers. 7.15 The Archers. 7.30 The Archers. 7.45 The Archers. 7.55 The Archers. 8.00 The Archers. 8.15 The Archers. 8.30 The Archers. 8.45 The Archers. 8.55 The Archers. 9.00 The Archers. 9.15 The Archers. 9.30 The Archers. 9.45 The Archers. 9.55 The Archers. 10.00 The Archers. 10.15 The Archers. 10.30 The Archers. 10.45 The Archers. 10.55 The Archers. 11.00 The Archers. 11.15 The Archers. 11.30 The Archers. 11.45 The Archers. 11.55 The Archers. 12.00 The Archers. 12.15 The Archers. 12.30 The Archers. 12.45 The Archers. 12.55 The Archers. 1.00 The Archers. 1.15 The Archers. 1.30 The Archers. 1.45 The Archers. 1.55 The Archers. 2.00 The Archers. 2.15 The Archers. 2.30 The Archers. 2.45 The Archers. 2.55 The Archers. 3.00 The Archers. 3.15 The Archers. 3.30 The Archers. 3.45 The Archers. 3.55 The Archers. 4.00 The Archers. 4.15 The Archers. 4.30 The Archers. 4.45 The Archers. 4.55 The Archers. 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Deadlock at EEC as crisis deepens

From Ian Murray
Brussels

With time and money running out fast, EEC agriculture and foreign ministers yesterday showed little or no inclination to make any of the concessions needed to save the Community from bankruptcy.

Meeting in Brussels they showed no real urgency, although diplomats hinted that a last-minute compromise might be pushed forward by France on the eve of next week's European summit.

In parallel meetings designed to pave the way for agreement at the summit the two sets of ministers refused to give anything away, either publicly or privately.

Hopes for any breakthrough before the summit therefore rest with the intensive series of bilateral meetings and contacts between individual member-states which are expected to go on at every level.

The two councils, which will end today, have at best succeeded in making every country aware of the differences which still exist, and at worst have made some deeply suspicious that France - as president of the Council of Ministers - is concocting a devious plot behind their backs.

The agriculture ministers are bogged down on the fringes of the European milk lake, which has now produced 900,000 tonnes of unwanted butter and which could double in size by this time next year if nothing is done to force farmers to dry it up.

Despite this, and despite the fact that experts estimate the common agricultural policy will cost the Community at least £1,500m more than is available this year, Mr Michael Jopling found no sense of urgency. "I don't want to waste any more time," he complained during one brief break. "I don't want to see my bed tonight."

In the words of a senior British official: "We are in a state of intensive and private diplomacy, which is the way the French presidency wants to conduct it and we do not disagree."

That "intensive and private diplomacy" is not to end when the ministers fly back to their capitals later today and the dwindling band of optimists left among Brussels officials regard that as extremely positive.

While the Democrats trade punches...



Smiling sweetly (from left): Senator Hart, Mr Mondale, Senator Glenn, Mr McGovern and Jesse Jackson before TV debate in Atlanta.

... Reagan charms the children

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan went on the campaign trail yesterday in an attempt to remind Americans that the bloody battle for the Democratic nomination is in fact only a warm-up for a much tougher contest on November 6.

Mr Reagan has hardly been campaigning this year as there are no challengers for the Republican nomination, and his brief outburst yesterday - to an elementary school in Washington's black ghetto - was designed to appeal to television viewers rather than win votes.

It was the sort of occasion at which Mr Reagan, the actor-politician, excels. He toured a classroom, played with a computer and then answered questions from about 200 seven and eight-year-olds who had gathered in the school auditorium to greet their guest.

According to opinion polls, the nation's 30 million blacks are supposed to be bitterly opposed to Mr Reagan and his policies. However, there was no sign of any anti-Reagan sentiment as his motorcade swept through the mean streets of south-east Washington, an area which does not normally receive distinguished visitors, be they Republicans or Democrats.

Nor did the children of Congress Heights Elementary School - adopted by the White House last year as part of a campaign to encourage partnership between public schools and the private sector - toss him any of the barbed questions which President Reagan is accustomed to fielding from the press.

What did he do at the White House? One child wanted to know. "A lot of people are asking that question," Mr Reagan joked, referring to critics who say he is only a part-time president. He then went on to discuss his morning's schedule which included talks with congressional leaders about the budget deficit, a briefing by two Middle East specialists and a meeting with two Central American foreign ministers.

Would he return to acting or politics after he left the White House? Another child asked. Mr Reagan made it clear this was not a prospect he foresaw for another four years. But, after that, "Well, I think I'll retire to my ranch and ride horses and do the things that need doing there."

Other children asked about how he became President and whether he thought there could be a woman President in 1988.



Leading with the chins: Senator Hart and Mr Mondale preparing for battle.

But the question which won him most applause and will appeal most to the viewing public came from a girl who wanted to know what he liked best about being President. "Visiting Congress Heights school," he replied. "And being in a position to help people."

Mr Reagan did not manage

to satisfy quite all of his audience. One girl stood up with a pained expression on her face which showed she had more urgent business in mind than asking the President questions. However, she quickly realized he was not the person to ask if she could leave the room and promptly sat down again.

And then the President was off, the cameras stopped whirring and, shortly afterwards, the lunchtime news broadcasts showed Mr Reagan surrounded by schoolchildren while Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart continued to trade punches ahead of today's Super Tuesday primary contests.

Beside the ghosts of crises past

Letter from Lausanne

The Hotel Beau Rivage is inhabited by a number of old men, some of whom are now dead.

In the restaurant above Lake Geneva yesterday appeared the elderly former chairman of the Lebanese Football Association, Pierre Gemayel, frail and with small steps, his thin lined face creasing briefly into a brave smile for the television crews.

At the Berlin Olympics in 1936 he was inspired by what he called the "order and discipline" of Nazi Germany to found the Phalange Party, and that is why he was in Lausanne yesterday, ready to fight for the cause of ordered, Christian civilisation in Lebanon.

In a husky voice, he sought from the waiter a bottle of Evian mineral water, more concession to age than to his Muslim political opponents at the reconciliation conference here. Mr Gemayel looks as if he feels at home at the Beau Rivage, although he has yet to walk past a tall, glass-fronted cabinet in the foyer.

Inside the cabinet stands a portrait of a contemporary of Mr Gemayel, a sepia photograph of a very young, Benito Mussolini, who came here for the Fifth Treaty of Lausanne in 1923, an agreement which, brought both Lord Curzon and Poincaré to the hotel to end the war between Turkey and the Allies. Signor Mussolini sits in the garden of the hotel, fumbling with a book, looking slightly embarrassed in front of the camera, well fed and slightly pudgy, like a cinema bouncer made good.

History has brought the old and the famous - and the infamous - to the Beau Rivage, to sign agreements (and sometimes to break them afterwards), and that is why Camille Chamoun was sitting two tables down from Pierre Gemayel yesterday. Former President of Lebanon, former ambassador to the Court of St James, it was Chamoun who set a ghostly precedent more than a quarter of a century ago by inviting US marines to land in Lebanon to preserve law and order, and his government. He is a courtly old man, less steady on his feet than Gemayel, but with a game smile and an equal passion for Evian.

He wears dark but very heavy glasses, and squints from behind them in a rather

puzzled way when he is confronted by his political opponents. Down in that ominous cabinet in the lobby, Ramsay MacDonald was doing the same yesterday. He came here in 1932, for the reparations conference, a long-drawn-out series of talks which did not, to put it mildly, lead Europe along the paths of peace. Mr MacDonald appears in the photographs wearing his round spectacles rather uncomfortably, fidgeting with them as he stares suspiciously across the Beau Rivage conference room at an aristocratic-looking German called Franz von Papen.

Some of the Lebanese at Lausanne yesterday would have felt at home with the former guests. Walid Jumblatt, whose palace at Mukhara confirms his feudal power, would have got on well with Edward VII, who enjoyed every facility of the Beau Rivage in the days when he was discreetly referred to as the sporting prince. The Phalange claim that President Amin Gemayel, old Pierre's son, has now embarked on a policy of appeasement with the Syrians, and there is in that haunted cabinet at the Beau Rivage an ancient ghost to haunt him too, the Rt Hon Neville Chamberlain, standing next to Sir Peter Simon in the front of the hotel, not far from Baron von Neurath.

Just next door, on a wild night in 1816, Lord Byron sat down to write the Prisoner of Chillon before going off to die in a manner that the Lebanese militia would understand.

Maybe the Beau Rivage will embrace kinder memories for the Lebanese, for it is a gentle old place. Its early nineteenth-century hallways are decorated with sculptured goddesses holding out olive branches and grapes, and are unable to keep their dresses from slipping off their bosoms. There are stained glass flowers in the ceilings, and stone lion heads and preposterous copies of Corinthian columns inlaid in marble. Rural tapestries adorn the walls beneath nymphs who hold up eternal flames. It is all quite beautiful.

And it is also totally unreal, which for the Lebanese is probably just as well.

Robert Fisk

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen holds an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, 11.
The Duke of Edinburgh visits London Docklands, and arrives at Surrey Dock, 10; and later opens the Broadway Shopping Centre, and the Wolsley House Home for the Elderly, at Berkeleyside, Greater London, 2.30.
The Princess of Wales visits the Rheumatology Unit, Hammersmith Hospital, W12, 10.30.

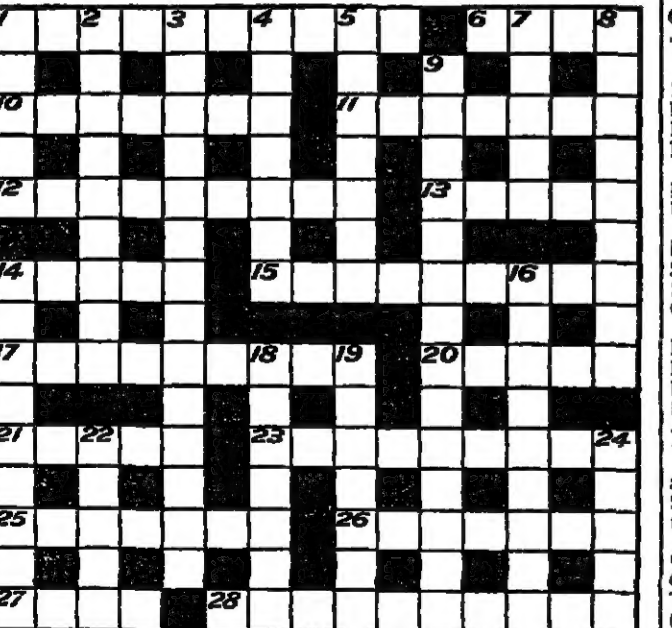
New exhibitions

Anthropological Collections in Cambridge; Adeane Gallery, Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington St, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 4.50, Sun 2.15 to 4.50 (ends May 16).
Music
Recital by the Cherubini Quartet, Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, Leicester, 7.30.
Recital by the BBC Northern Singers, University Chapel, Keele University, 8.15.
Recital by the Stuttgart Piano Trio, Reardon Smith Theatre, Park Place, Cardiff, 7.30.

Concert of Popular Tunes in 17th Century England

at St Mary's Church, Ashwell, Bedfordshire, 7.30.
Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Town Hall, Cheltenham, 7.30.
Concert with the Combined Choral Societies of Clifton College, Clifton High School and Badminton School, Clifton Hall, Clifton, Bristol, 7.30.
Organ recital by Marcus Huxley, Town Hall, Leeds, 1.05.
Recital and talk "Music I Like", by Anthony Hopkins at Westminster College, North Hinkley, Oxford, 8.
Organ recital by Bernard Robertson, St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.
Piano recital by Julia Cloud, Chichester Cathedral, 1.10 pm.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,377



ACROSS

- Building most likely to suffer from coastal erosion (4-6).
- Little bird with no range of knowledge of style (4).
- "All right" possibly a printing error? (7).
- He wrote to student in French about King's Square (7).
- Clairvoyant ability gets publicity in a small way on the sea front (9).
- Zeus's daughter brings back duck-wood (5).
- Father in "A Month in the Country" (5).
- Article, no thanks to Edward, is given textual comment (9).
- Such philosophy found in many a sort of well (9).
- Record what's done in a lunar age (5).
- Disprove Murphy's return (5).
- One way to chase a pretty girl is not fair (9).
- Where gear may be not at all colourful (7).
- It's an example of suppression, literally (7).
- A bit of a chest pain (4).
- "Although she purged the air of..." (7, 9, 10).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,376

ACROSS
1. BUILDING
2. LITTLE
3. ALL
4. HE
5. CLAIRVOYANT
6. ZEUS
7. FATHER
8. ARTICLE
9. SUCH
10. RECORD
11. DISPROVE
12. ONE
13. WHERE
14. IT'S
15. A
16. ALTHOUGH
17. SHE
18. PURGED
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28. THE

Exhibitions in progress

Turners from the Tate Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends May 27).
Bridget Riley - Working With Colour, DLI Museum & Arts Centre, Ayleth House, Durham; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (closed Mon, ends April 8).
Julia Margaret Cameron Exhibition: John Hansard Gallery, The University, Southampton; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (closed Sun), also closed Friday, 30 April to Monday, 23 April, ends April 29.
Nick Hedges Photographic Exhibition: Oriol 31, 31 High St, Wexmouth, Dorset; Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (closed Sun, ends March 29).
A Personal View - oil and watercolour exhibition: Looking Glass Gallery of Modern Arts, 53 Halifax Rd, Teddington; Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30 (closed Sun and Mon, ends March 31).

Anniversaries

Births: Joseph Priestley, clergyman and scientist, Birstall, Yorkshire, 1733; Hugo Wolf, composer of lieder, Windischgarz, Austria (Slovenia), 1864; 1860: Sir Hugh Walpole, novelist, Auckland, New Zealand, 1884; Deaths: Richard Burbage, actor, London, 1619; Benjamin Harrison, 23rd President of the USA 1889-93; Benet, poet, author of John Brown's Body, New York, 1943; Angela Brazil, writer of girls' school stories, Coventry, 1947.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Budget statement.
Lords (2.30): Education (Grants and Awards) Bill, third reading, Cable and Broadcasting Bill, Third Reading.

TV top ten

- National top ten television programmes in the week ending March 4.
1. Coronation Street (Mon) Granada, 14.55m
 2. Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 14.55m
 3. 3-2-1 Yorkshire, 14.00m
 4. Day Five Yorkshire, 14.00m
 5. The Saturday Show, 8.75m
 6. Wish You Were Here Times, 13.40m
 7. Child's Play LWT, 12.85m
 8. Crossroads (Tue) Central, 12.50m
 9. Crossroads (Thurs) Central, 12.45m
 10. This Is Your Life Times, 12.10m

Channel 4

1. Treasure Hunt, 2.40m
2. Chess, 3.15m
3. The Saturday Show, 8.75m
4. The Day in the Bush, 2.55m
5. The Lady in the Lake, 2.55m
6. Brookings (Thurs), 2.55m
7. The Saturday Show, 8.75m
8. The World at War, 1.25m
9. The World at War, 1.25m
10. The World at War, 1.25m

Channel 5

1. Desperate Housewives, BBC, 6.00m
2. St. Elmo's Fire, BBC, 7.00m
3. The World at War, 1.25m
4. The World at War, 1.25m
5. The World at War, 1.25m

Channel 6

1. Desperate Housewives, BBC, 6.00m
2. St. Elmo's Fire, BBC, 7.00m
3. The World at War, 1.25m
4. The World at War, 1.25m
5. The World at War, 1.25m

Channel 7

1. Desperate Housewives, BBC, 6.00m
2. St. Elmo's Fire, BBC, 7.00m
3. The World at War, 1.25m
4. The World at War, 1.25m
5. The World at War, 1.25m

Channel 8

1. Desperate Housewives, BBC, 6.00m
2. St. Elmo's Fire, BBC, 7.00m
3. The World at War, 1.25m
4. The World at War, 1.25m
5. The World at War, 1.25m

Roads

London and South-east: The continued closure of Hammermill Bridge puts extra pressure on nearby Putney, Chiswick and Wandsworth Bridges; expect delays during peak periods. M4: London-bound carriageway closed between 9 and 10 at Reading and Maidenhead exits until July; all traffic shunting westbound carriageway; allow for delays. A11: Junction improvement at Mile End Road at Bardon Road, Midlands and East Angles. A449: Traffic signals on Worcester - Malvern Road, near Powick. A10: Traffic signals along St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire. A54: Delay possible Guildford Street, Sturford, Warwickshire. Wales and West: A4: Temporary traffic lights in Charlotte Street, Bath, Avon. A38: Lane closures at Marsh Mills, between Plymouth and Exbury, Devon. A55: Temporary signals in working hours on Bangor - Colwyn Road at Conwy. North: A690 Lane restrictions in Burn Park Road / Durham Road / Burn Park Road, Sunderland. A19: Maintenance work between Tactos Roundabout and A690, Sunderland. A59: Single lane traffic in Liverpool Road South, Burroughs. Scotland: M74/M73: Intermittent lane closures at junction 6/1 on roads to and from M73. A92: Carriageway closures between A911 and B921, Glenrothes; contra flow. A74: Northbound carriageway closed at Beattock Summit; two-way traffic southbound. Information supplied by AA.

The papers

Time was when nobody knew what was in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's mind until he rose to his feet on Budget Day, the Daily Star says. "Now look at all the lobbying, knee-flying and trail ballooning that goes on in the weeks beforehand. If you believe all the forecasts, Mr Nigel Lawson is going to present a neutral 'steady as she goes' Budget today. Or else he's going to make radical, far-reaching changes in the tax structure. He will either put VAT on fish and chips and slash tax relief on life insurance - or not as the case may be. You pay your money and take your choice. Oh yes, with Budgets you usually pay your money all right."

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.59	1.59
Austria Sch	27.90	26.30
Belgium Fr	82.25	78.25
Canada \$	1.91	1.84
Denmark Kr	14.37	13.67
Finland Mk	8.52	8.12
France Fr	12.01	11.51
Germany DM	3.91	3.73
Greece Dr	161.80	151.00
Hong Kong \$	11.78	11.18
India Ru	12.74	12.23
Italy Li	2415.00	2315.00
Japan Yen	340.00	324.00
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.21
Norway Kr	11.40	10.80
Portugal Esc	196.00	186.00
Spain Ptas	164	150
Sweden Kr	12.74	11.14
Switzerland Fr	3.24	3.07
USA \$	1.50	1.45
Yugoslavia Dnr	196.00	186.00

Weather forecast

An easterly airstream will become established over the British Isles

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, central N England, E, W Midlands: Rather cloudy, a few sunny intervals developing, showers, some heavy; wind easterly or northeasterly, moderate or fresh; Max temp 6C to 8C (43F to 46F). East Angles, E, NE England: Rather cloudy, sunny showers, some brighter intervals developing; wind mainly easterly fresh or strong; max temp 5C to 7C (41F to 45F). Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Some sunny intervals, scattered showers, some heavy and windy; wind easterly or northeasterly, fresh or strong; max temp 6C to 8C (43F to 46F). N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Mainly dry, some sunny intervals, isolated showers; wind NW moderate or fresh; max temp 6C to 8C (43F to 46F). Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow: Rather cloudy, mainly dry, perhaps a little drizzle in places; wind dry, sunny periods, wind NE moderate or fresh; max temp 7C to 8C (45F to 46F). SW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, rather cloudy at times; wind NE moderate, locally fresh; max temp 6C to 8C (43F to 46F). Outlook: Thursday: Little change, rather cold and cloudy with occasional drizzle in E, mainly dry and brighter in W.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind NE

fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. English Channel (E): Wind NE strong locally; sea rough or very rough; St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Lighting-up time

London 6.22 pm to 6.47 am
Brighton 6.42 pm to 6.58 am
Sheffield 6.42 pm to 6.58 am
Manchester 6.40 pm to 6.58 am
Penzance 6.54 pm to 6.58 am

Full Moon: March 17.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, Cloud: 1, Rain: 1, Sun: 0, Snow: 0.

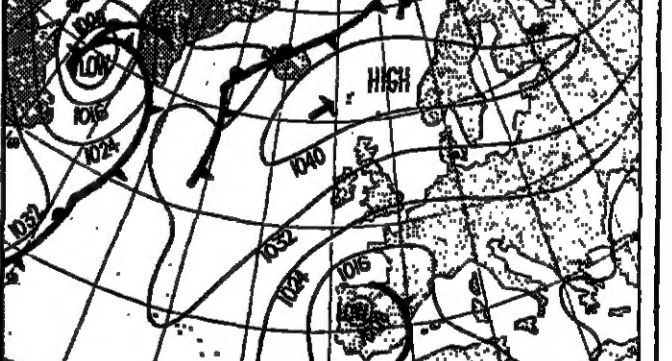
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Chipping 19C (66F); Lowest day temp: Salsburgh 4C (39F); Highest night temp: Southampton 0.7C (33F); Lowest night temp: Salsburgh -0.1C (31F).

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8C (46F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 4C (39F). Humidity: 6 pm, 72%. Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.17 in; 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.5 in. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1.064 m (3.508 ft). Wind: 1,000 mbar = 53.3 ft.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars



High tides

	AM	PM	PM	PM
London Bridge	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Aberdeen	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Aberystwyth	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Belfast	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Cardiff	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Dover	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Dunfermline	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Glasgow	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Hull	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Leamington	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Liverpool	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Lough Linn	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Manchester	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Marazion	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Millport	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Oban	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Portsmouth	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Portsmouth	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Southampton	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Swansea	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Torquay	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7
Walsby-on-Sea	8.28	5.7	10.14	5.7

Around Britain

	Sun	Rain	Max	Min	Wind	Sea
Scarborough	1.8	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Birmingham	0.8	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Cardiff	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Exeter	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
London	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Manchester	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Newcastle	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Nottingham	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Sheffield	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Southampton	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Swansea	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Torquay	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate
Walsby-on-Sea	1.1	0.2	6.3	4.3	cloudy	moderate

Abroad

WEDNESDAY, 11. Clouds dr. drizzle; 1 fair; 1 rain; 3 sun. SW, 15-20. Thunder.										C	F
	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F
Ajaccio	11	52	Copenhagen	10	50	Malacca	10	50	de Jan	11	52
Algeria	12	54	Corfu	10	50	Malta	15	59	Rio de	11	52
Amsterdam	13	55	Dallas	7	48	Medan	15	59	Sabang	11	52
Antwerp	13	55	Darmstadt	10	50	Meerut	22	72	San Paulo	11	52
Athens	19	65	Dobruvnik	11	52	Moscow	22	72	St Francisco	11	52
Batavia	19	65	Faro	15	59	Munich	28	77	Santiago	11	52
Bombay	11	52	Genoa	15	59	Nagasaki	28	77	Singapore	11	52
Buenos Aires	12	54	Hankow	5	41	Nanking	30	86	Sourabaya	11	52
Calcutta	12	54	Frankfurt	5	41	Norwich	3	31	Sydney	11	52
Canton	12	54	Funchal	15	59	Odessa	3	31	Tamper	11	52
Cebu	17	63	Geneva	2	36	Osaka	3	31	Tel Aviv	11	52
Colon	17	63	Hong Kong	16	61	Paris	15	59	Tientsin	11	52
Hankow	17	63	Hong Kong	16	61	Peking	22	72	Tokyo	11	52
Hong Kong	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Perth	13	55	Toronto	11	52
Kobe	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Valencia	11	52
Kyoto	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
London	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Lyons	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Manila	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Medan	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Meerut	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Moscow	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Munich	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Nagasaki	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Nanking	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Norwich	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Odessa	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Osaka	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
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Peking	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
Perth	17	63	Kobe	16	61	Port of Spain	13	55	Vancouver	11	52
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